GYPSY RETURNS IN "THE WHITE WING"!

HEAVY

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TIP-IN #7 BY JULIE BELL!

THE ADULT ILLUSTRATED FANTASY MAGAZINE

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How To Excite A Member Of The Opposite Sex © Veros D'Ours
Gypsy- The White Wing © Dargaud (Belgium) SA 1999 by Smolderen & Marini

Illustration by Matt Hughes
To see more of Matt's work, check out his website at www.matthughesart.com

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HEAVY METAL

PUBLISHER'S NOTE

I KNOW I spoke a bunch about San Diego in last issue's publishers note, but I can't resist pumping it up again in this issue! It's a most excellent show for us regardless, but this year is turning out to be one of our coolest!

In addition to having "The Biz" signing his new "Art of Bisley" book all four days, we have Mr. Royo signing his new "Conceptions" book Friday and Saturday, I'll be signing my new "Turtles Artobiography" massive hardcover everyday, and I'm going to make the only guy who's worked at Heavy Metal from day one sign copies of our "25 Years of Classic Covers" book, Howard Jurofsky!

BUT THAT IS NOT ALL- - we also have a number of other special guests; Gil Bruvel premiering his new self published book "Timeless Travelers", HM cover artist Tomas Giorello will be signing and showing off his upcoming feature length story, HM cover artist Lorenzo Sperlonga has created an exclusive painting for the show featuring "Julie Strain" and the "Porcelain Twinz" and will be signing and giving away 250 free 8 x 10's on Friday, with the "Twinz"! Last but far from least, we have the superstar model from this issue's cover painting, Aria Giovanni signing and giving away 250 free 8 x 10's of her as "Druuna" on Saturday! At this point, I think it is officially illegal not to come by the Heavy Metal booth, and if you need more info on the con go to www.comic-con.org

Okay, enough with self promoting the convention, let me now self promote this month's issue... I mentioned the cover model Aria, but did I tell you it was inspired by a photo by Julie Strain and painted by Heavy Metal newcomer Drew? Well, there you go. In fact, we loved Drew's work so much that we had to put him in the Gallery section as well. Nice job, and welcome aboard cowboy!

This issue also features the long awaited return of "Gypsy" in an action packed installment. One of my favorite HM characters, by far. We have some of the most excellent HM regulars like Karl Kofoed, Steve Ringgenberg, and Bouq doing what they do best. Speaking of Karl Kofoed, be sure to check out his web-site at www.users.rcn.com/kkofoed. Karl's selling limited edition Galactic Geographic prints for only $50 each. What a deal! Also, Biz and I are throwing down the next installment of "Fistful of Blood", plus newcomer Alfredo Pons spins a twisted, nasty tale for us. In addition to a few more bonus stories, I want to make special mention of "Featured Artist" Matt Hughes who works extremely hard and not only got the feature section, but we'll be featuring him in an upcoming gallery shortly. Nice going, Matt.

Lastly, I'm on a quest for "new and unusual" letters from any of you readers out there- I love all the ones I've been getting, but at the same time I'm looking for sparks that might start some interesting dialogue down the road. You can always pop us a note by mail, but these days the message board at www.heavymetal.com has been formatted into several cool, specific sections you might want to look into and make your point.

Wishing you all the best,

Kit Boot Mary

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear H.M.,

I just wanted to write to you and tell you how much I love Heavy Metal. I've been reading it for a long time and have truly been inspired by the stories and artwork, since I am an artist and writer. I was wondering if you guys have ever considered creating a series of short animations using some of the writers and artists and their characters for maybe a late night cable show. It would be great to see DEN back, as well as Loma and the rest of Heavy Metal's greatest characters in some good quality short cartoons filled with action-adventure, sex, nudity, and rock & roll. Let me know what you think.

Matt

Dear Matt,

Thanks Matt- - if you ever have any ideas for the magazine, I'm always looking for short stories. As for as your idea about short animated stories, I would love to do that, but the short stories can be more expensive to do than long ones most of the time. Who knows- we might get to see some more of your favorite Heavy Metal characters animated real soon...

Dear H.M.,

First of all, just wanted to say congratulations. What a great magazine, books and videos you guys do. The artists are all amazing and their work is spectacular!! I have been a fan since the first HM video I saw. Exciting stories, great action and sexy girls. What more could a guy ask for! I also managed to get a hold of one of your magazines, second hand (by pure luck) as they are impossible to come by where I am.

Alex

Dear Alex,

Thanks for your support, and sorry to hear you're having trouble finding us at times! We have great distribution, but the market is pretty tough out there for all magazines. I'm not trying to drum up business for ourselves, but I just want to let you know we have tons of great stuff on-line, as well as a store that has every HM item available that we can ship pretty much anywhere in the world.

Dear H.M.

After recently entering the dreaded 31-35 demographic, I did what any right thinking person of my age should do. That is, I consumed the better part of a case of beer and dragged out my old collection of HM magazines. I started collecting HM in the late 70's by raiding the couch for quarters and scoring second hand copies at the used book store. Reading them, I was inspired to draw and write my own stuff and eventually managed to make a living doing what I loved: working in the video game industry. Happy to say one of the best perks of my improbable dodging of the poverty bullet is to be able to subscribe to the magazine that started me down this road in the first place. Thanks to HM for being there all these years, and special thanks to all the guys there behind the scenes who have worked so hard to maintain the high standards set all those years ago. And thanks to Kevin for putting in so much personal time and energy into something he clearly cares about as much as well all do. Well done!

Brian

Dear Brian,

Thanks, and speaking as a guy that just entered the over 40 demo, I can relate on the one hand, but on the other I feel pretty much the same as I did when I was 30. We may get older, but remember, we always get better. Thanks for hanging in there with me.

Dear H.M.,

I want to tell you the art and stories in your magazine are simply beautiful. I discovered it not three months ago, and one issue was enough to make me get a subscription. Thanks!

Kilroy

Dear Kilroy,

Cool beans! I agree with your taste, I want to tell you what we're now doing with the three Specials we put out every year- - we're now including two feature length forty eight page graphic novels in each! Check those out and let me know what you think!

Dear H.M.,

I would just like to say it's an honor to write to you and I am a big fan of your work, which leads me to a couple of questions. I think I have about all of your comic work, but please let me know if there's anything I'm missing. What I have is: TMNT, Melting Pot/FAKK2, No Guts or Glory, Infectious, Zombie War, and Underwhere. Have you released any other projects that I don't know about? Based solely on art, my favorite of your productions is "No Guts or Glory". I love the atmosphere. I have just one more question. In some of the old TMNT comics, an upcoming Art Suydam TMNT special was announced. I wrote to the TMNT web-site awhile back and Mr. Laird thought that this Art Suydam work had been released in a Heavy Metal publication. If that's true, will you please tell me when it was published? Thanks so much!

Matt

Dear Matt,

I am humbled by your comments. Thank you for your dedication! I'm pretty sure you've got everything! The upcoming stuff is a "Fistful of Blood" story that Simon and I are doing in HM, and that will be out as a collection in the Spring. I'm also releasing a hard-cover collection of a lot of never before seen TMNT work over the Summer you might like, and I will be starting a brand new series called, "White Ronin Blues" on Heavymetal.com in January. I've completed nearly half of "White Ronin Blues". It will be 120 pages total and I'm writing and drawing it solo.

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

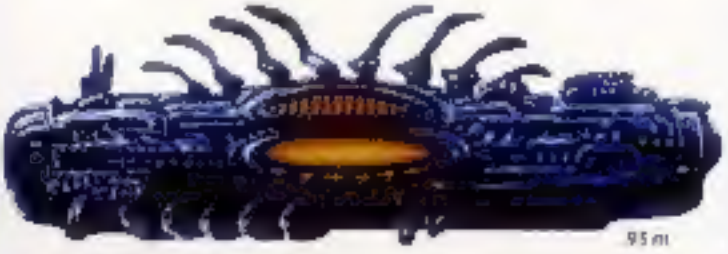
MUSIC of OTHER WORLDS
Part 4

Frettest fingerboards evidence the tonal quality of the TSAI TAR. Its strings are touched but not depressed by the Tsai musician at left.

Pseudo-pads, with their highly flexible musculature, allow the Tsai musician to deftly slide up and down two tonal scales provided by twenty strings of tonalliest carbon. A third pseudo pad picks both sets of strings simultaneously.

Before the year 3000 few humans would have suspected that a musical instrument could be powered by will alone. But today the Vox Universalis (pictured below), now familiar to most humans, is just such an instrument. Invented by S.P. Somtow in 3001, the Vox is the first device to amplify thoughts and transmit to other minds. The Vox does not create sound waves but articulates music to the listener. And does it so perfectly that when the Tsailerol "heard" it for the first time they became convinced that the sound was supernatural.

In the picture above, a Tsailerol musician plays an instrument made by human colonists. Designed to be played only by a Tsai, it was created demonstrate our spiritual kinship with them. The *Tsai-Tar* is based on an



95 m

(Below) Found recently by a Geographic team, this relic from the toxic planet Green, resembles a reed flute.

14.2 cm

10.31 cm

(Right) An ancient fragment (over 2 million years old) found on the far side of Earth's moon. Although only part of the original object, analysis has determined that is made from a resonanting wood-like material wrapped in organic matter of a different type; possibly once living tissue.

(Left) Unearthed at an archeological site on Planis Colony, this is not a just a skull, as originally thought, but a skillfully crafted percussion instrument made from several types of Planisian sea creatures.

22.6 cm

©2002 Karl Kofoed

Viewed collectively, even truly alien instruments, like the Noron Aquachord or the trumpet-like Tsai Heatbell seen here, don't seem particularly strange.

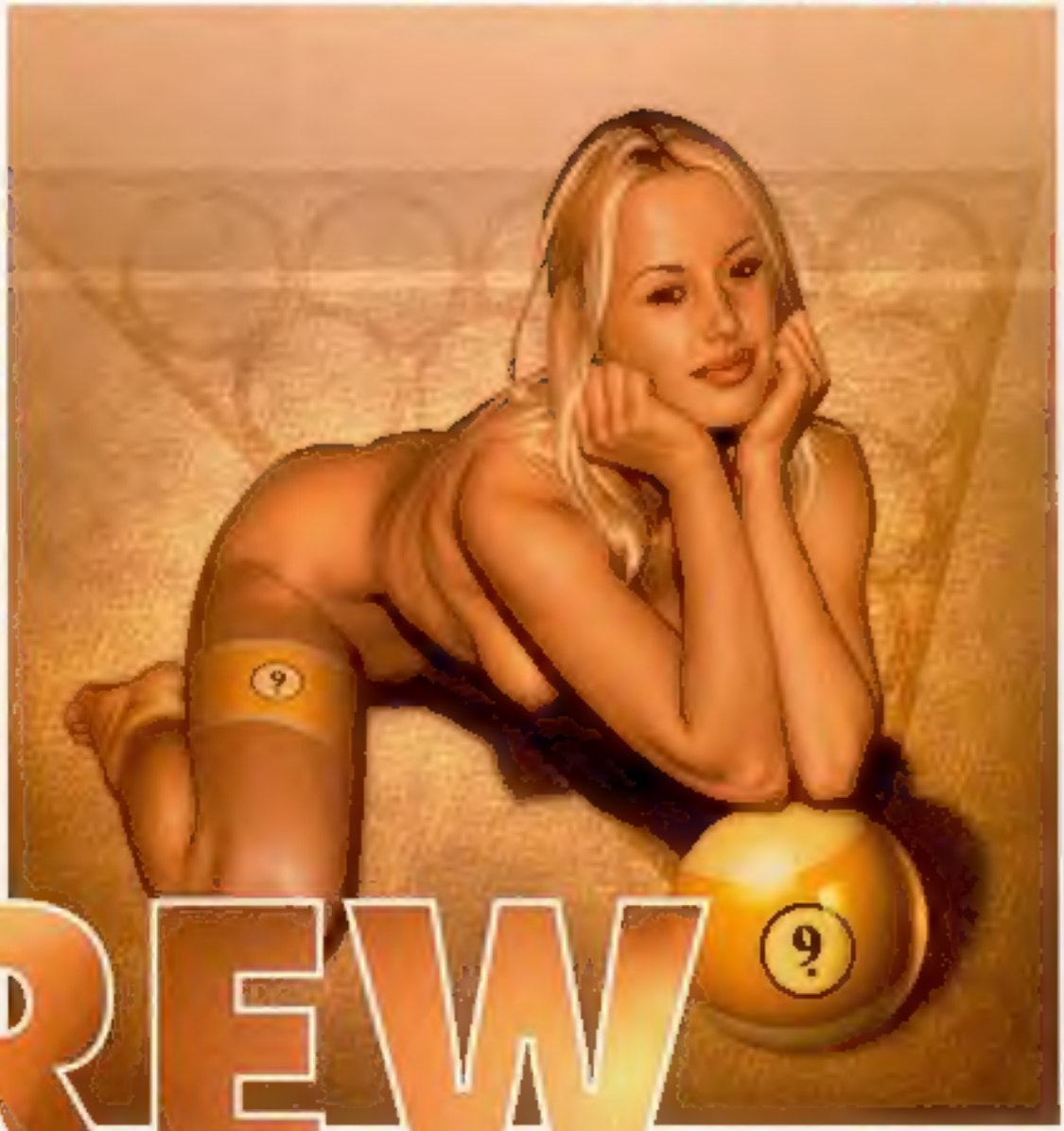
The Aquachord (right) is used by Norons. Its bells produce flute-like tones when water passes through them. Its sound and tone have also been compared to that of the Tsailerol Heatbell (below), an instrument that converts electrical surges in the Tsailerol's body into sound.

ancient design (the electric guitar), but has crisscrossed fret boards and strings designed for a three armed player. To the Tsai it has become a symbol of unity between our cultures. Its success was a surprise to the human colonists. "It was intended to be a symbol that could be played. It was not assumed that it would be played," says musician Chris Frank, builder of the instrument.

At right the Pleiades stellar cluster shines like spotlights above the heads of a Tsai musician and his 'engineer' who are introducing the music of the *Tsai-Tar* to a Tsailerol crowd for the first time. The sound column, of Tsai design, serves only as an amplifier for the event. The concert was very entertaining to the Tsai. But human colonists described it as a cacophony of unconnected tones that changed so fast they couldn't make sense of it. "The Tsailerol have a different time frame," reflects Frank, on hand for the unveiling of his instrument. "Their nervous system works faster than ours. And they have no sense of rhythm, I suppose, because they don't have hearts to give them a sense of rhythm, as humans do."

From the Stellar Journals of Karl Kofoed
Next in the series: *Noron Water Music*

©2002 Karl Kofoed



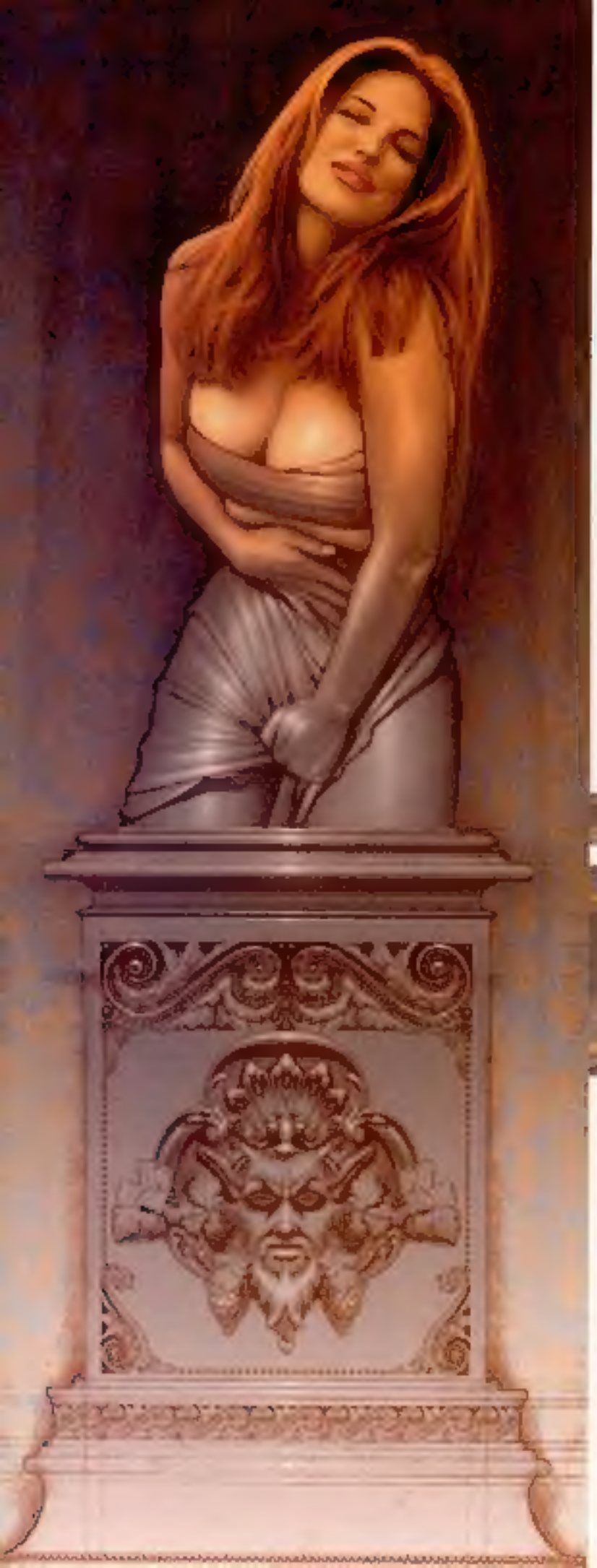
DREW

Bio on Drew

Written by Drew's best friend and writer, Joe Antonelli

Drew's approach to art reflects his attitude toward everything else he does in life. He is on a constant quest for improvement; what he did yesterday is not as good as what he will do today. For Drew, life is a competition and the winners are those who do not give up but continue to pursue their goals to the end.

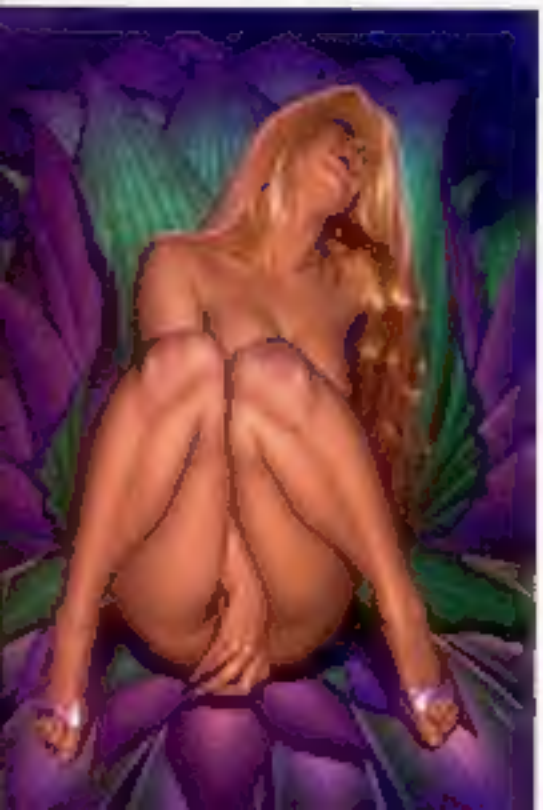
His talent for art grew quickly, by the age of sixteen he was being paid for his work. But as he was often reminded, art was no way to make a living. He chose to forego college and went to work after high school as a picture framer. Despite his skill as a framer and the clientele he developed, the work was torture for the young artist. Finally, he had to face the inescapable conclusion that art was in his blood and that he would never be satisfied unless he was the one creating.



A move from Seattle to Southern California brought more than a change of weather. He was hired immediately by Image Comics in the Spring of '94 and his work appeared in the comic books of Top Cow, Wildstorm, and Extreme Studios. Working in comics forced Drew to hone his craft. Comics also brought about a change in technique that would not have been possible even a decade earlier: the use of computer airbrush, which allows for greater artistic flexibility and experimentation.

Drew's work in comics won him acclaim and a decent living, but he yearned to be recognized for his pinup art. While he wanted to improve his technique, it was the work of the two legends of pinup, Sorayama and Olivia that truly raised the bar for Drew. And he knew that in order to have made it in the field of pinup art, he had to be at Robert Bane's Gallery. When Drew first attempted to be represented there, he was told to improve his craft. For most artists, this would be the kiss of death, but for Drew it gave him a clear goal, and his competitive instincts were rekindled.

He went back to work, focusing on the details, developing his craft, sacrificing his comfortable living with comics. He was on a mission, one that he could not turn away from without giving up his reason for being. Two years passed, and when he submitted his new work to Bane, he was greeted enthusiastically and welcomed to the gallery.



What you see on these pages reflects his most recent works, and yet these paintings should be viewed as the first phase of a mature artist. These are a precursor to better things to come, as an artist and a person. Drew is still in competition with himself, still experimenting and developing his craft and new ways of expression.

As his career continues, look for Drew's art to bring new perspectives, to transcend

where pinup is today, and to continue on his journey of discovery.

You can find more of Drew's work at Robert Bane's gallery site: www.worldofpinup.com
Also, look for his new book at newsstands and bookstores.

DOSSIER

DOSSIER IS WRITTEN BY S.C. ROCKEMORE
REACHABLE AT SCROCK@NORTH.NET

Back in the mid-70s there were few comic book artists who were bigger stars than Frank Brunner. With a dynamic, realistic style reminiscent of Frazetta and Berni Wrightson, Brunner went from a star-making stint on Dr. Strange to draw Howard the Duck. Brunner had done several Howard stories as backups in the Man-Thing title, and the response to his work was so great that Howard was given his own title. Although most comics fans today aren't that awed by talking comic book ducks (Donald and Daffy excepted), they were the hottest trend in comics for a year or so. In 1976 Howard the Duck was the most sought-after comic that year, so much so that distributors diverted shipments of the first issue, which wound up being sold at conventions for five dollars ($) a copy. Brunner did only two issues of Howard before leaving the title. Within three years, Brunner left Marvel for good in a dispute over Marvel's new work for hire contracts. Brunner wrote an angry "farewell to comics" in issue #51 of The Comics Journal, but he wasn't quite done with comics. Brunner continued sequential art for some of the new publishers that had sprung up in the late 70s and early 80s, including Heavy Metal, Pacific Comics, Star*Reach and First Comics. Brunner also went beyond comics, getting into animation and film design and finding a lucrative livelihood doing posters, portfolios, and private commissions for art collectors. But to most comics fans Frank Brunner simply dropped off the radar screens after the early 80s.

But Brunner is back with a new collection showcasing his best illustrations, old and new. On May 22nd, Vanguard Productions issued Eyes of Light, The Fantasy Art of Frank Brunner. For Brunner's oldest fans, it's a chance to revisit the work of a long-ago favorite. For younger fans, it's a chance to discover the work of a man who is one of the contemporary masters of fantasy illustration from a time before direct sales, comic book stores, and the tidal wave of manga styles washed over the comics business.

(As always, thanks to J. David Spurlock of Vanguard for providing the illustrations accompanying this interview. For a look at more of Brunner's work from Eyes of Light, and Vanguard's other art books, visit their web site at: www.creativemix.com/Vanguard.)

HM: Frank, when did you become interested in art? Were you drawing as a child?

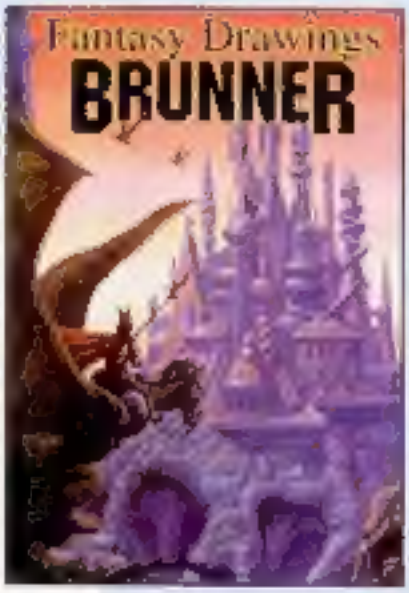
BRUNNER: Well, I'd have to say yes. I started drawing at six or seven years old, I think. And I think it began with my interest in any depictions of dinosaurs! And since there are no photos of living dinosaurs, I became aware of drawing and painting and really liked drawing strange and exotic creatures. Sometimes I'd imagine them coming to life and eating some of my less liked relatives!

HM: What kind of artistic training did you have? Where?

BRUNNER: I took an entrance examination to get into the High School of Art and Design (in Manhattan) and passed, after that I did a short stint at the School of Visual Arts, where I met Burne Hogarth.

HM: Who were your early artistic inspirations and how did they affect your style and approach to art?

BRUNNER: If I go back to the very beginning, it would be the great prehistoric animal artist, Charles R. Knight. I would buy postcards with his art at the Museum of Natural History and try to copy them. Later, I started reading a lot of comics and newspaper strips, among my favorites were Prince Valiant, Flash Gordon, Dick Tracy, Li'l Abner (especially Fearless Fosdick). I loved the early Turok Son of Stone comics and Tarzan. I was also impressed by the early work of Joe Kubert and Gil Kane, who influenced me to try and draw the human figure. Later I discovered Wally Wood, Williamson and Frazetta, who set the standards I would aim for later on. They all taught me the importance of being able to draw well, but also lighting and dramatics; story telling would come later with artists like Will Eisner and Jack Kirby.



HM: Why did you choose to go into comics?

BRUNNER: Comics and Movies filled my childhood with fantasy escapism from the rather provincial world of Brooklyn where I grew up. Someday perhaps, if I ever write an autobiography it will be titled: Out of Brooklyn! And there are a bunch of artists, writers, movie stars, etc., who could do the same. (Half of them seem to be named Frank.)

HM: What was it like being in the business in the early 70s alongside creators like Steve Englehart, Berni Wrightson, Barry Smith, et al.?

BRUNNER: There seemed to be an explosion of talent at that point and the atmosphere was charged with sparks of creativity, competition and a certain camaraderie.

HM: What was your first published painting? What medium was it done in?

BRUNNER: First published painting I think was in a fanzine called Infinity #2 in B&W because they couldn't pay for color. I'm not sure if it was oil or acrylic. I was experimenting with both. Of course it depicted a Dragon and a Space Knight on an Alien World.

HM: Of your comics work, what do you think was the most successful recording to fulfilling your artistic vision?

BRUNNER: Well. There were different achievements through the years which reflected different goals and Dr. Strange was very much my vision of him and his world and although I wish I could go back to the first and do it over a lot better here and there, I think it remains a high water mark along with my work on Howard the Duck, Savage Sword of Conan #40 and later. Our color adaptation of Elric? There were other attempts at perfection, but those projects suffered from a multitude of publishing snafus or just simply poor distribution and sales. Star Reach, Warp, Alien World, and my Graphic novel, Seven Servants.

HM: What were your favorite comics characters you worked on, and why?

BRUNNER: Again, Dr. Strange, because Mr. was different from the average Marvel character, and being a philosophizing hippie, that appealed to me. How was he different? He didn't solve problems by muscle or force of arms, yet he might have been the most powerful magical hero Marvel ever had! Marvel never really understood what he was. Englehart and I LIKED! Also I was entertained by Howard the Duck's every man's point of view and the feeling of being Trapped in a World of stupidity and injustice! And I was really into Elric and his misguided attempts to make a new fair and just world. Then the 80's came and the darkness of unrestrained greed and cocaine showed on all that was left for me to do was Servants the comic going, SQUARE as dragons, my message of peace and love because met in Seven Servants. Strangely enough Marvel has suddenly rediscovered my work and is reprinting quite a bit of it just now!

HM: How many comics did you finally illustrate?

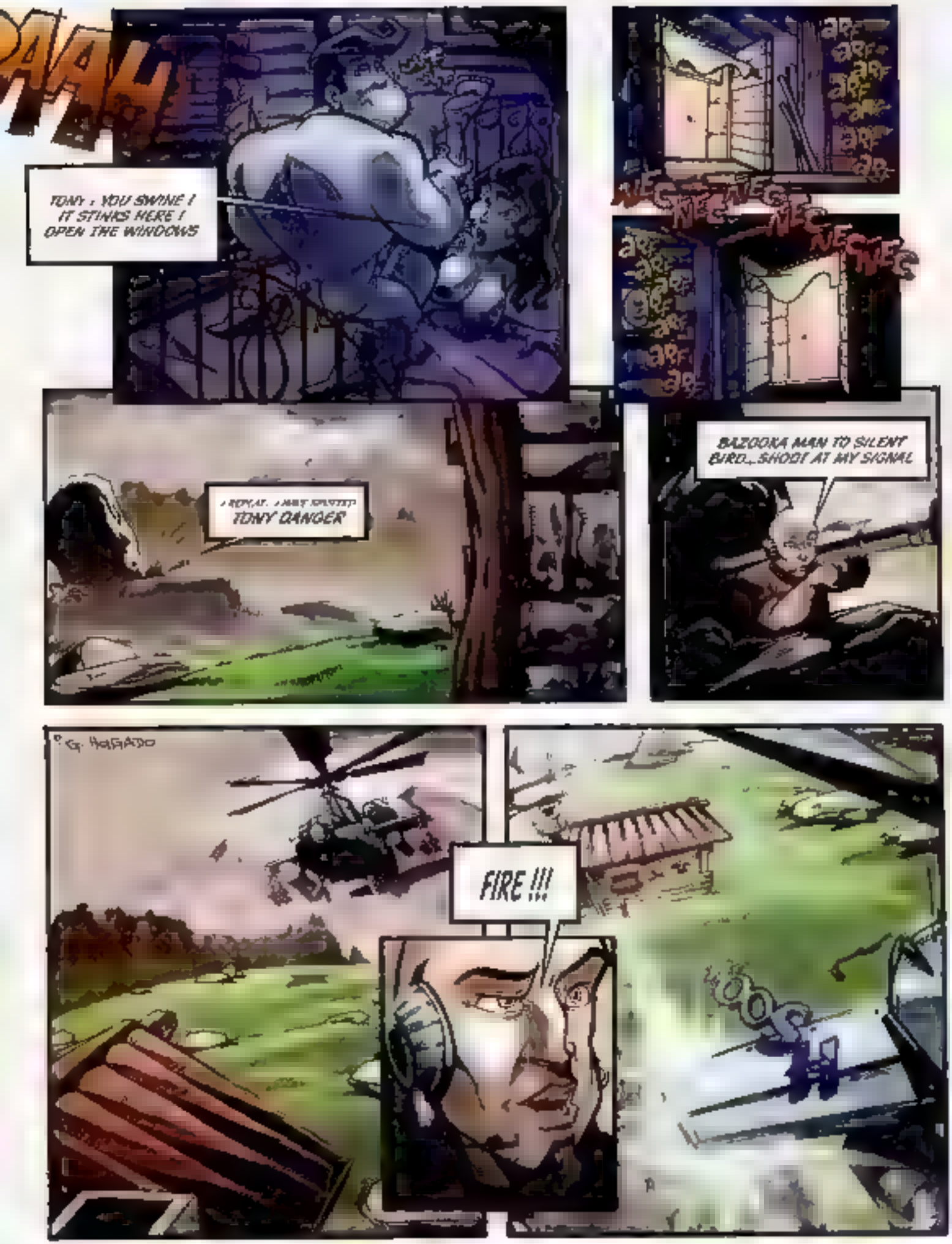
BRUNNER: God, I don't know. My goal in comics was never quantity, but rather quality!

HM: Not knowing what was going on behind the scenes, most comics

Robert Kanigher
(1915-2002)

Robert Kanigher may not have been a household name, but he was one of the most prolific writers in comics history and a consummate professional. Although he wrote hundreds of superhero, romance and western scripts, his best-known creations were Sgt. Rock of Easy Company and Enemy Ace. In a career that spanned over 40 years, Kanigher wrote scripts for almost every character in the DC Comics stable, including Wonder Woman, Sea Devils, Lois Lane, The Metal Men, Tomahawk, The Flash (both Gold and Silver Age versions), the original Hawkman, the original Green Lantern, The Justice Society, and the original Atom, as well as writing for Fawcett, Fox and MLJ. He was also a long-time DC editor with high professional standards and a reputation for being tough on artists. A true Renaissance Man, Kanigher also wrote poetry, radio scripts, non-fiction books, and painted in oils. His last work for DC appeared in 1988. Kanigher died on May 6, 2002, at the age of 87.

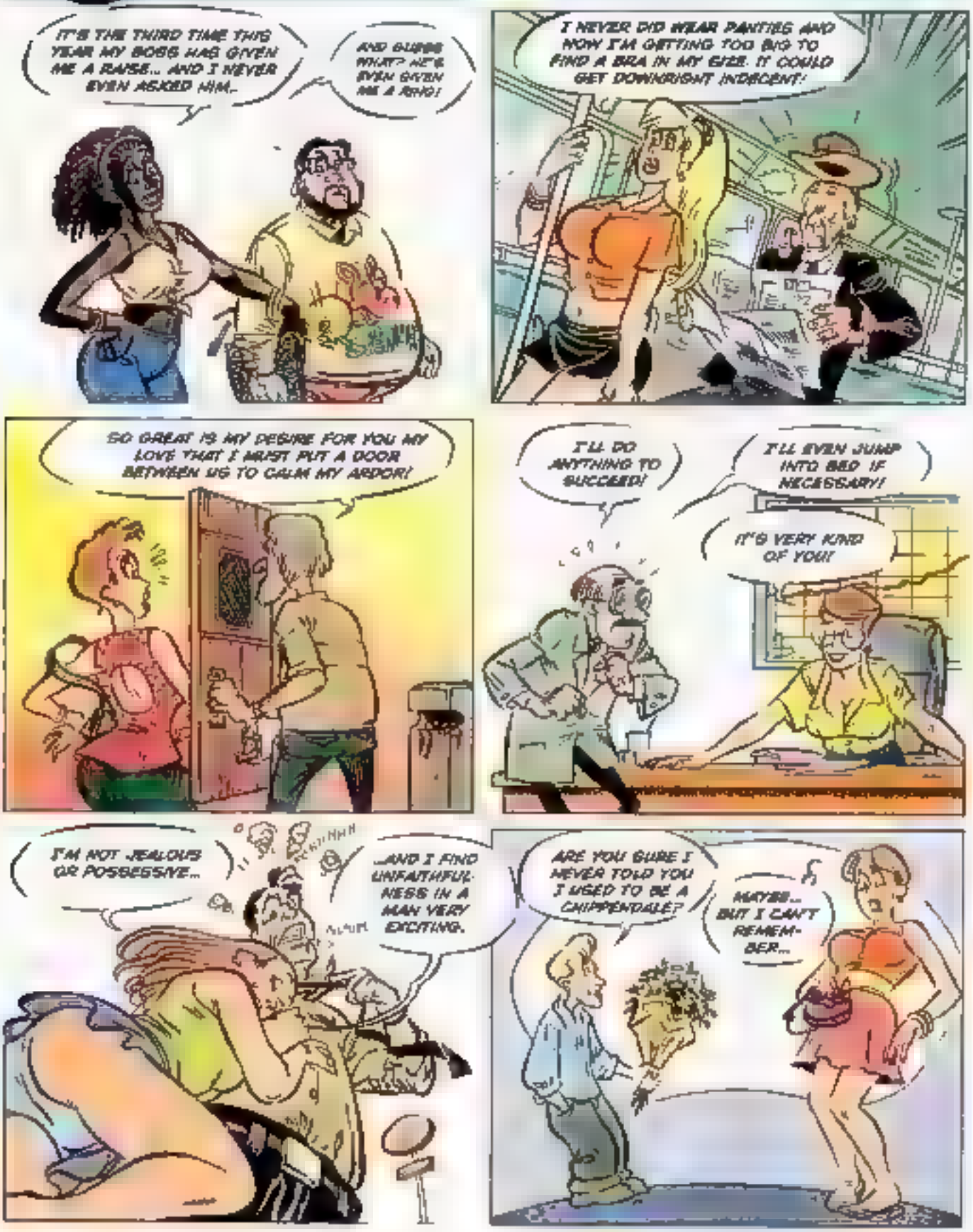
TONY DANGER : FATAL FART
TONY DANGER
JULIE SCREAM
AFTER A FEW TRIES, TONY HAS MADE IT TO CONVINCE HIS FAVOURITE ACTRESS TO SPEND A WEEK-END TOGETHER.
IN SUCH IDYLLIC SURROUNDINGS, HE TRIES TO SEDUCE HER BOASTING GENTLENESS, ELEGANCE AND GOOD MANNERS...
PRRRAAH


TONY ! YOU SWINE ! IT STINKS HERE ! OPEN THE WINDOWS
TONY DANGER
BAZOOKA MAN TO SILENT BIRD...SHOOT AT MY SIGNAL
FIRE !!!

FFOOOSH
OOPS
BOOM
FFOOOSH!!
CRAK!
YOU HEARD THAT NOISE, TONY ?
ER... IT MUST BE THE BEARS, THEY FART TOO...
SHUT UP AND KEEP SUCKING
END

HOW TO EXCITE A MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITE SEX

STEP ONE: WHAT TO SAY TO MAKE 'EM CRAZY ABOUT YOU...

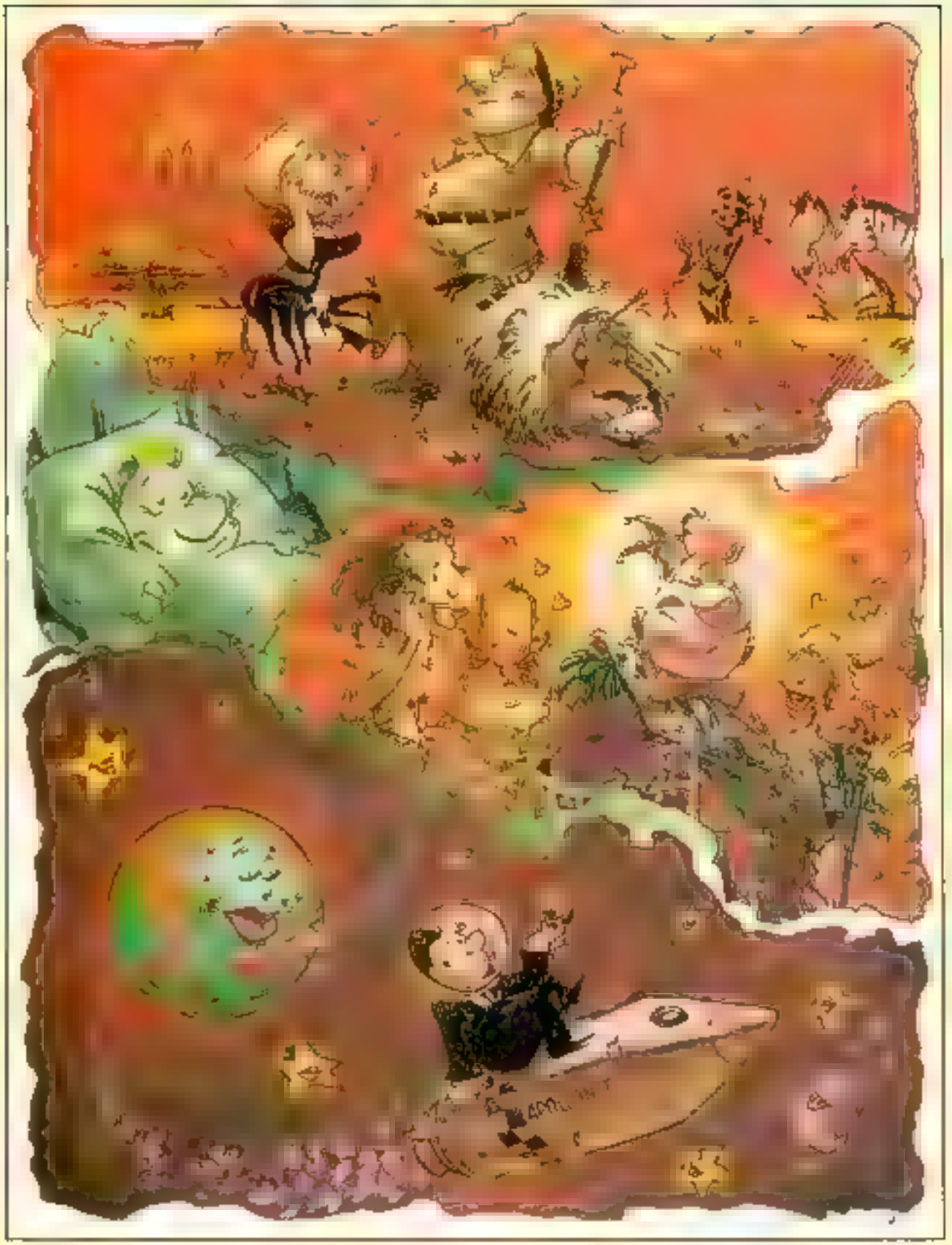

IT'S THE THIRD TIME THIS YEAR MY BOSS HAS GIVEN ME A RAISE.. AND I NEVER EVEN ASKED HIM..
AND GUESS WHAT? HE'S EVEN GIVEN ME A RING!
I NEVER DID WEAR PANTIES AND NOW I'M GETTING TOO BIG TO FIND A BRA IN MY SIZE. IT COULD GET DOWNRIGHT INDECENT!
SO GREAT IS MY DESIRE FOR YOU MY LOVE THAT I MUST PUT A DOOR BETWEEN US TO CALM MY ARDOR!
I'LL DO ANYTHING TO SUCCEED!
I'LL EVEN JUMP INTO BED IF NECESSARY!
IT'S VERY KIND OF YOU!
I'M NOT JEALOUS OR POSSESSIVE..
...AND I FIND UNFAITHFULNESS IN A MAN VERY EXCITING.
ARE YOU SURE I NEVER TOLD YOU I USED TO BE A CHIPPENDALE?
MAYBE... BUT I CAN'T REMEMBER...

HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER OF THE OPPOSITE SEX
STEP TWO: WHAT TO SAY TO MAKE 'EM TEAR THEIR HAIR OUT...
SEND SEDUCTIVE MESSAGES ON THEIR ANSWERING MACHINE.
HELLO... THIS IS BOOGER... AH YOU CAN'T IMAGINE HOW I MISS YOU... I WANT TO FEEL YOUR TENDER FLESH AH...
KEEP YOUR IDENTITY A SECRET
EVEN I CAN'T REMEMBER MY REAL NAME.
THAT'S HOW SECRET IT IS!
DISAPPEAR COMPLETELY
4 MESSAGES YESTERDAY
WHY JUST FOR A FEW WEEKS?
5 TODAY...
HE'S DOING NUTS!
SUBSCRIBE TO A DIRTY MAGAZINE.
THANKS TO "PURE PORK" MAGAZINE.
I KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT RAISING PIGS!
PURE PORK
BUY CONDOMS IN BULK.
THAT SHOULD GET ME THROUGH THE WEEK!
TALK ABOUT YOUR DREAMS
JULIA ROBERTS IS MAD AT ME 'CAUSE SHE DOESN'T WANT ME TO GO OUT WITH ASHLEY JUDD. BUT I DON'T CARE 'CAUSE I'M IN LOVE WITH CAMERON DIAZ...
I'VE OFTEN BEEN TOLD I LOOK LIKE HER. DO YOU THINK SO?

HEY JEROME, WHAT'S THAT THING THERE ON YOUR MANTLEPIECE?
OH MY, OH MY! IF YOU ONLY KNEW! THAT'S QUITE A STORY! YOU CAN'T IMAGINE! AND... AND...
AND YET I WASN'T ALL ALONE THERE WERE LOTS OF OTHER PEOPLE. I WAS SO LUCKY! BELIEVE ME IF YOU WILL BUT I WAS THE ONLY ONE THAT SPOTTED IT!
OH YEAH?

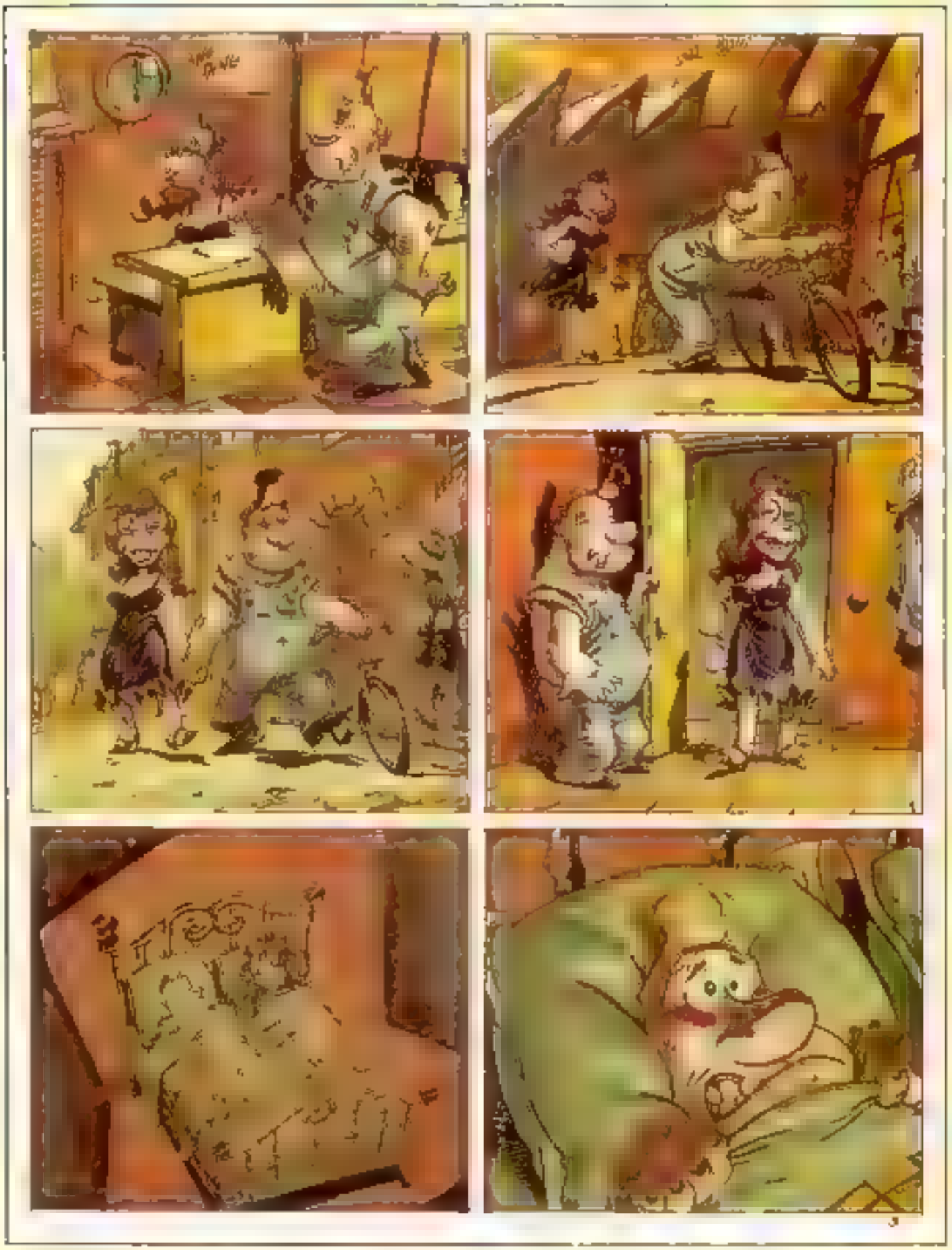
In Bed

AS SOON AS I GET HOME AT NIGHT
WASH MY TOES NICE AND BRIGHT
THEN INTO MY PAJAMAS ALL STRIPED.
I DIVE INTO MY SOFT BED ALL HYPED.
BUT SOON'S I'M UNDER THE SHEETS
I GET MY MOST FAVORITE OF TREATS.
MY HEAD HITS THE PILLOW AND THEN
I'M OUT OF IT 'N' DREAMIN' AGAIN.



STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN AT NIGHT
AS I LIE IN MY COMFY BED
SLEEPING SO VERY TIGHT
I SHOOT MIGHTY LIONS DEAD
AND EAT GRIZZLIES FOR TEA
THERE ARE HUGE PHOTOS OF ME
IN ALL THE LOCAL NEWSPAPERS
I GUESS I'VE WOMEN THE VAPORS
I'M AN INTREPID MOUNTAINEER
SCALING TALL PEAKS FAR AND NEAR
AND ACCLAIMED AS A DRUG CZAR
I PEDDLE DOPE IN EVERY BAZAAR.

AND EVEN THE GREAT QUEEN OF ENGLAND
WANTS TO MAKE ME HER ROYAL HUSBAND
I'VE BROKEN THE SOUND BARRIER
AND HENCE FEEL ALL THE MORE SMERRIER
I'VE LONG INTERVIEWS GALORE
AND THEY'RE ALWAYS ASKING FOR MORE
I'M A GENIUS THEY ALL SEEM TO SAY.
I GET STANDING OVATIONS EVERY DAY
AT NOON TO THE MOON I MUST FLY
AND GIVE E.T A NEW RECIPE TO TRY
MEN AND SUPERMEN FOR CHAW
I NEVER TIRE OF ADVENTURE'S MAW



BUGHED TO WORK THE OTHER DAY
AND TOLD EVERYONE RIGHT AWAY
ABOUT MY ADVENTURES AT NIGHT
MY BUDDIES LISTENED IN DELIGHT
SWEET GRAV THE SECRETARY WAS THERE
LOOKING LIKE SHE DIDN'T REALLY CARE
BUT THEN SHE WHISPERED IN MY EAR
A WHISPER BUT QUITE LOUD AND CLEAR
AS GREAT AS ALL THAT MIGHT SEEM TO BE
CAN DO BETTER JUST YOU WAIT AND SEE

BUT WHAT IS HAPPENING TONIGHT?
RIGHT NOW AS I LIE IN MY BED,
I'VE GOT A BAD CASE OF STAGE FRIGHT
AND REALLY WISH I WAS DEAD.
FEEL SO TINY AND PUNY OH DEAR
CAN'T SEEM TO MAKE A PEEP
THOUGH SWEET BOY LIES NEAR
AND SHE'S IN A DEEP SLEEP
CURLED LOVLY UP BY MY SIDE
LIKE SOME RUNAWAY BRIDE
WERE TIMES WHEN I DREAMT OF THIS, TOO.
BUT THEN I ALWAYS KNEW WHAT TO DO
THOSE GIRLS WITH THERE GORGEOUS TITS.
ALWAYS SWOONED OVER ME IN FITS
BUT NOW AS MY GREAT CUDDLES SO NEAR.
I'M ONLY CONSUMED WITH SHEER FEAR

HER EYES ARE SO BIG WIDE AND BLUE
HER CAREFULLY BLEACHED BLOND HAIR-DO
'S GETTING ALL TANGLED TORN AND ASKEW
IN THE BUTTONS OF MY STARCHED PAJAMAS
THIS HAS TO BE THE WORST OF MY DILEMMAS
NOW SLOWLY SHE'S GETTING INTO KISSING
BUT MY ARDOR'S GONE COMPLETELY MISSING
MY HEAD IS SPINNING AND GRUNTING
NO MORE LIONS GOODBYE TO HUNTING
FEEL ALL SHRIVELED AND SO SMALL
FAREWELL TO MY GREAT DREAMS AND ALL
IT'S OVER NOW AND TIME TO GO
AND YET IN MY HEART I KNOW
THAT THIS DREADFUL DREAM WILL BE BACK
LIKE SOME TIRED OLD HACKNEYED HACK
TOMORROW AND TOMORROW AND TOMORROW

AL DESIR, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF TURDYSTAN...

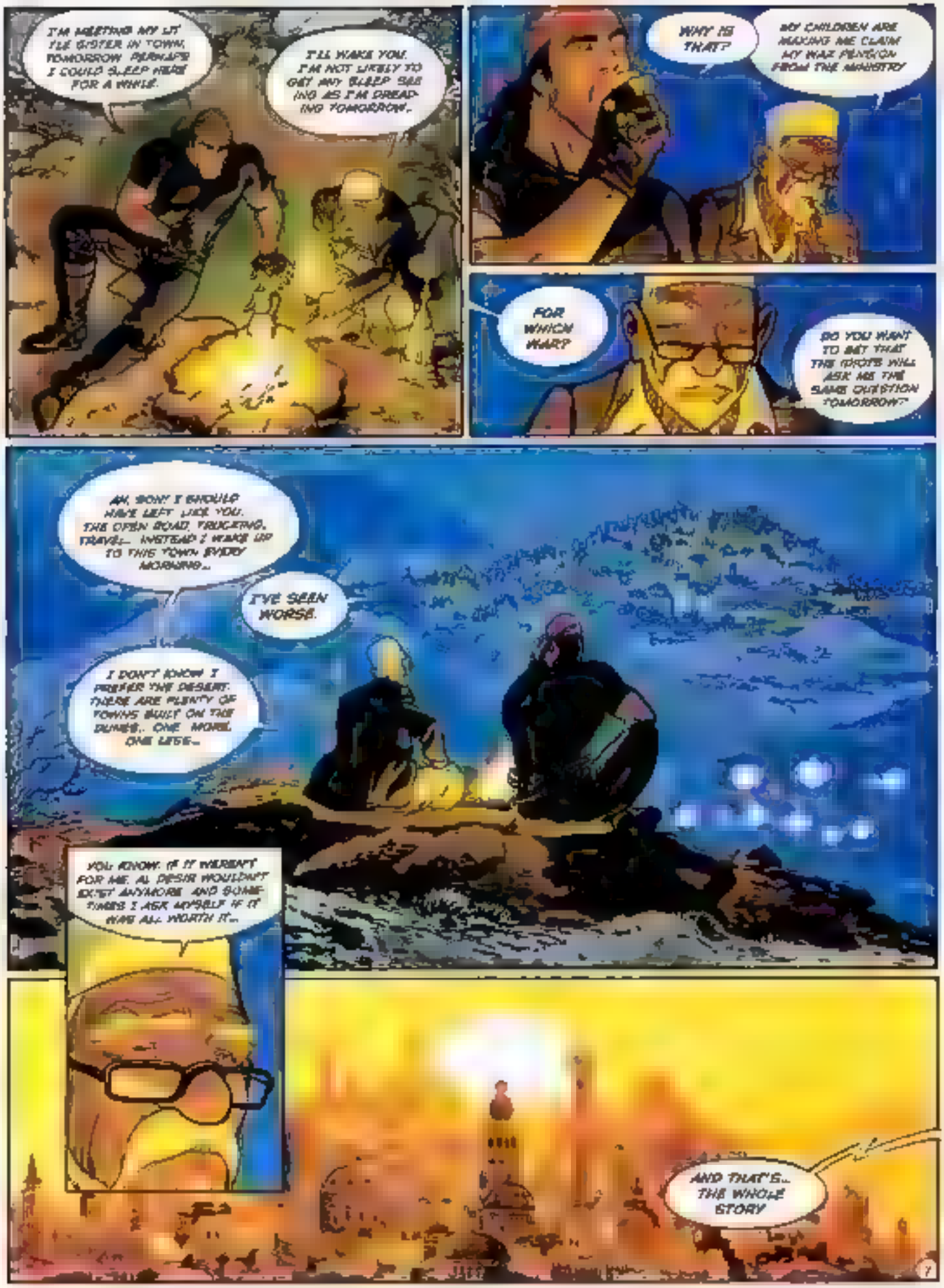
HERE WE ARE. THIS IS IT THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE WHITE WIND. JUST LISTEN TO THE WIND. AHHAA! IT'S THE ANCIENS LAUGHING
YES, SISSIAH. I CAN HEAR IT. THE SPIRITS GREET YOU!
TWO WEEKS LATER...

GET DOWN! RED PATROL IN SIGHT!
WHAT ABOUT LAND MINES?
OUCH! MY ANKLE!
WE'VE DONE THAT. THE ROAD HAS BEEN MINED FOR ABOUT FIFTY YARDS.
THEY'RE INSPECTING THE AREA. IT'S GOING TO BE BUSY AROUND HERE...
PFF! INCOMPETENT IDIOTS!
SO IS EVERYTHING OK?
HEY BOSS! LOOK WHAT I FOUND!
A L-LAND MINE! THE BLUES HAVE MINED THE RO...
THERE'S THE CONVOY!
QUICK! NEUTRALIZE THOSE FUCKIN' MINES BEFORE EVERYTHING BLOWS UP!
OOOOONNNKK
IT'S NOT OUR CONVOY

AAAH!!
BY THE FLAMES OF HELL! BEELZEBUB! WHAT THE FUCK IS THAT?
WHAM
DRACU!
KA-BOOM
WHAM
THIS IS THE TOWN OF AL DESIR RIGHT?! COMMAND COORDINATES?
UGHHTJA 43 K SOUTHERN ENTRY TO AL DESIR.
BOOM
WHAM
WHAM
WATCH OUT! OBSTACLE AHEAD! TURBO-BRAKES ACTIVATED!
OUCH! GOD DAMN! WHY CAN'T THEY WARN YOU IN TIME!

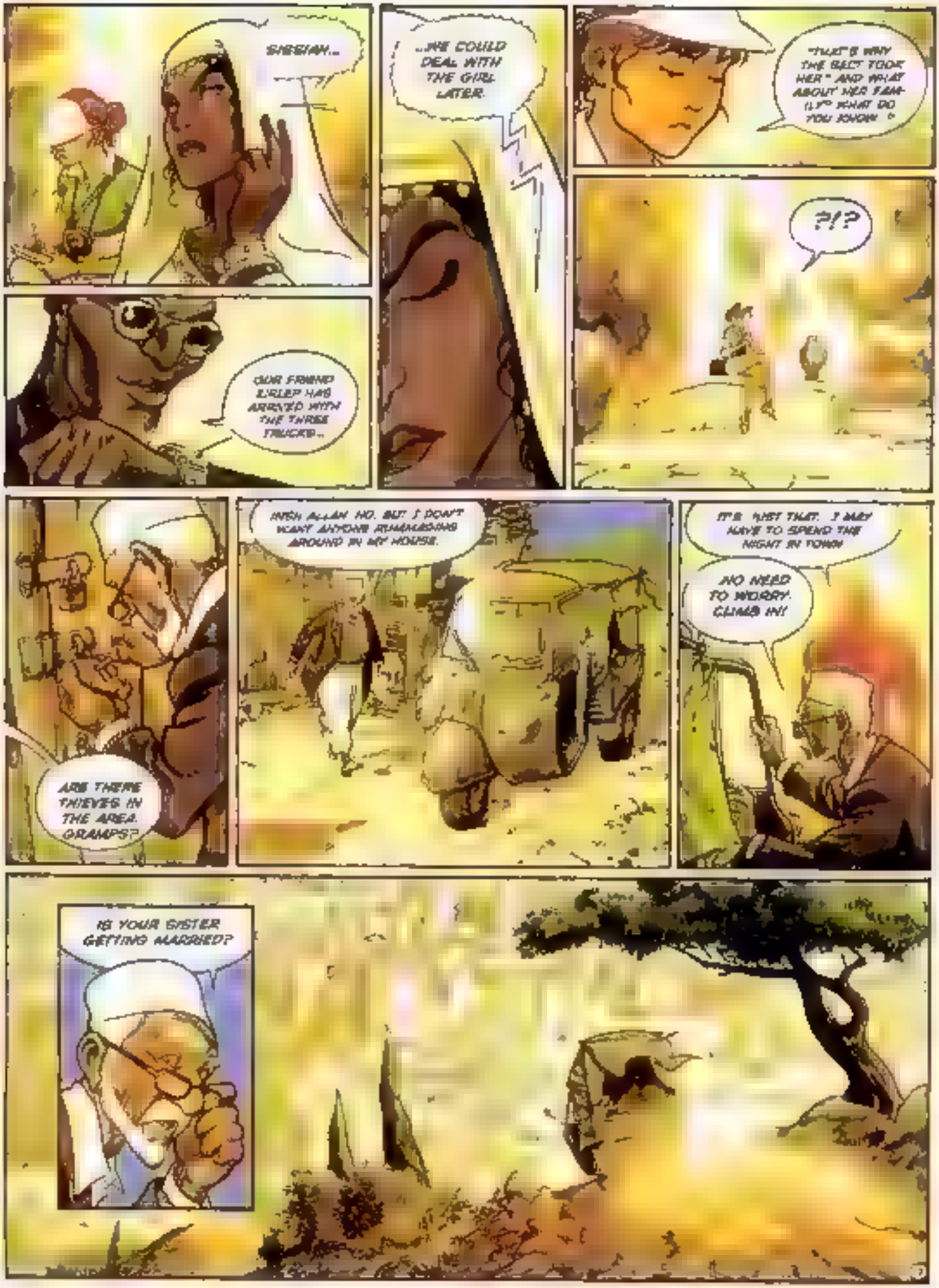
OOPS! WHERE DID THEY COME FROM?
AND THEY SEEM TO WANT TO TAKE POT SHOTS AT MY RIG!
AND THE GYPSY...
...DON'T LIKE THAT!
WROOOOOOOM
I PISS ON YOUR SUNDAY DINNER!!
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THIS TOWN?!
I'LL GIVE OBLIVIA A MOUTHFUL IF I SURVIVE THIS!
WRRAAWWW
CRAASH
BROM
KLONG

OOOOOH!!
BY THE SAD EYES OF THE WHORES OF SNOGOV!
MALFUNCTION OF COOLING SYSTEM... ESTIMATED COST OF REPAIR... CLICK!
DON'T BOTHER! I'M FLAT BROKE!
SORRY BOSS! DID YOU KNOW THE THIRD WORLD WAR HAD BROKEN OUT RIGHT NEXT TO YOU?
DON'T WORRY SON IT'S JUST A SHOW PUT ON BY THE MINISTRY OF GAGS AND PRANKS TO IMPRESS FOREIGN INVESTORS
BOOM! THEY'RE JUST SHOOTING FLOUR. NOW ALL WE NEED IS A STAND WITH SOME POPCORN AND SODA.
SIT DOWN AND HAVE SOME TEA WITH ME. THIS WILL GO ON ALL NIGHT. YOU'RE NOT IN A HURRY, ARE YOU?


I'M MEETING MY LITTLE SISTER IN TOWN, TOMORROW. PERHAPS I COULD SLEEP HERE FOR A WHILE.
I'LL WAKE YOU. I'M NOT LIKELY TO GET ANY SLEEP SEEING AS I'M DREADING TOMORROW..
WHY IS THAT?
BOY CHILDREN ARE MAKING ME CLAIM MY WAR PENSION FROM THE MINISTRY
FOR WHICH WAR?
DO YOU WANT TO BET THAT THE IDIOTS WILL ASK ME THE SAME QUESTION TOMORROW?
AH, SON! I SHOULD HAVE LEFT LIKE YOU. THE OPEN ROAD, TRUCKING, TRAVEL... INSTEAD I WAKE UP TO THIS TOWN EVERY MORNING...
I'VE SEEN WORSE.
I DON'T KNOW I PREFER THE DESERT. THERE ARE PLENTY OF TOWNS BUILT ON THE DUNES.. ONE MORE, ONE LESS...
YOU KNOW, IF IT WEREN'T FOR ME, AL DESIR WOULDN'T EXIST ANYMORE AND SOMETIMES I ASK MYSELF IF IT WAS ALL WORTH IT...
AND THAT'S... THE WHOLE STORY
7

AND IS YOUR BUDDY STILL THE PRESIDENT OF THIS COUNTRY?
YEAH. HE'S BEEN IN OFFICE FOR THE PAST FIFTEEN YEARS AND I CAN'T EVEN GET ONE OLIVE TREE TO GROW IN THIS RACCOW GARDEN.
SLEEP FOR A WHILE NOW. AND MAY PEACE BE WITH YOU.
I'LL TRY TO THINK ABOUT IT TONIGHT.
GOT PROBLEMS WITH YOUR SISTER?
NO. JUST AN OLD INJURY. I WAS STABBED IN THE BACK AND IT BOTHERS ME WHEN THE WEATHER CHANGES...
HERE'S A QUIET PLACE. SO WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK TO ME ABOUT?
THAT'S RIGHT. BUT NO ONE IS WILLING TO ANSWER MY QUESTIONS...
PEOPLE SAY YOU PAY FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE WHITE WING...
TRADING IN BAD MEMORIES BRINGS BAD LUCK.
EVERYONE ACTS AS IF THE SECT HAD NEVER EXISTED. THE WHITE WING WAS BANNED AFTER THE REVOLUTION.
HAVE YOU HEARD OF A WOMAN KNOWN AS THE WITCH?
SHE WAS BORN HERE. SHE WENT BY THE NAME OF SIGGAN.
MY MOTHER WAS AT SCHOOL WITH HER.
YOUR MOTHER WAS AT SCHOOL WITH THE WITCH?

SIGBJAN'S FAMILY WAS EVEN POORER THAN OURS. HER PARENTS SOLD HER TO THE SECT WHEN SHE WAS TEN YEARS OLD.
SO MOTHER SAW HER LATER. LIKE EVERYONE WHO HAD BEEN INVOLVED WITH THE WHITE POWER SHE HAD CHANGED.
MAYBE BECAUSE THEY TAUGHT HER TO UNDERGO TRANSFORMATIONS. YOU KNOW SHE WAS THAT OPEN?
MY MOTHER AND HER FRIENDS CALLED HER "LITTLE OCTOPUS". SIGBJAN COULD CHANGE HER FACE AT WILL. SHE COULD SUCK HER HAIR BACK INTO HER HEAD...
HUH?
AND SHE COULD CHANGE THE COLOR OF HER EYES IN A FLASH. THAT'S WHY THE SECT TOOK HER.
NOT SO FAST. NOT SO FAST. I HAVE TO GET ALL THIS DOWN.
AH! SIGBJAN! SIGBJAN! WHY MUST YOU ALWAYS FOOL AROUND WITH YOUR VICTIMS?
SLAM

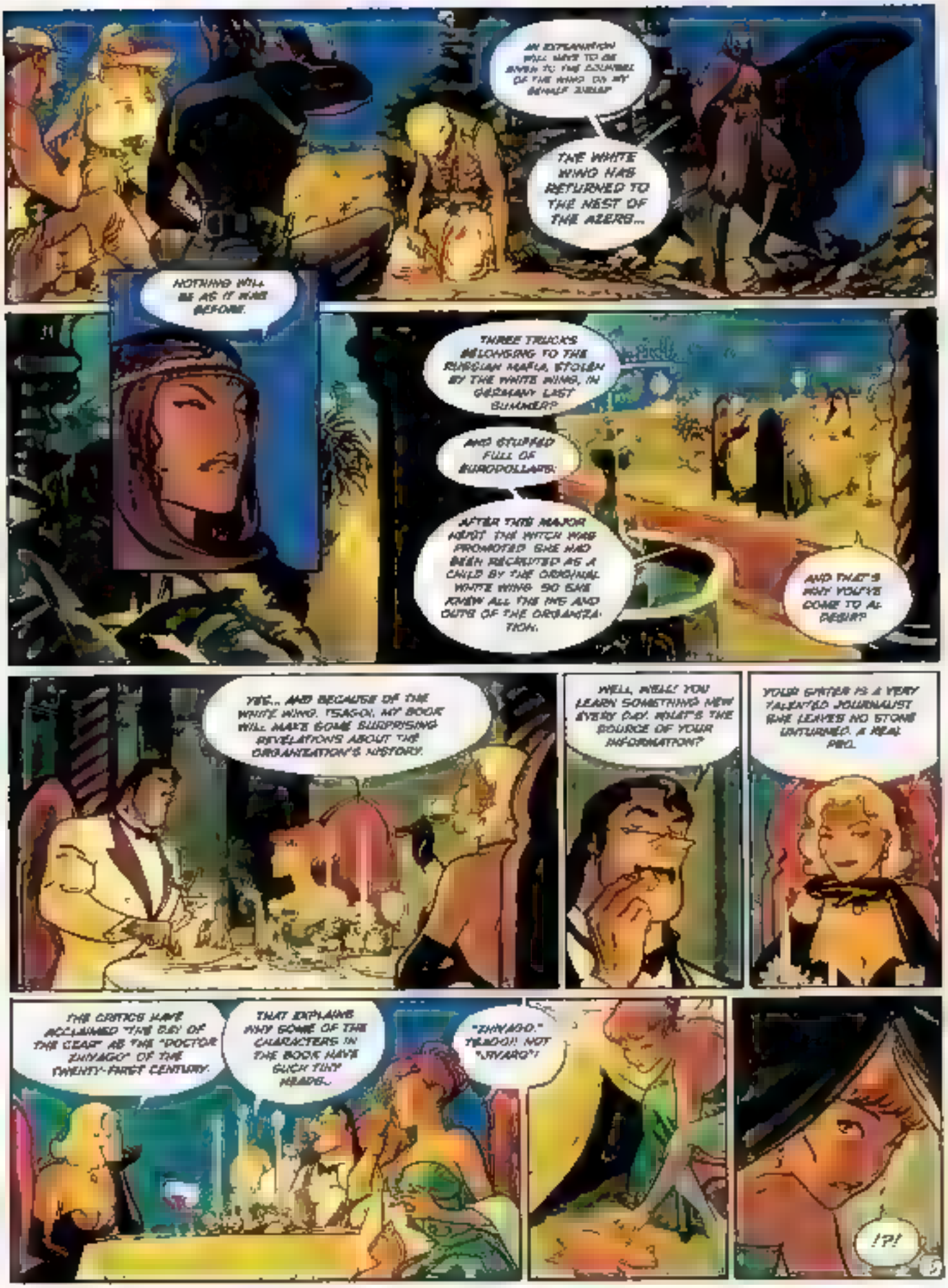

SHEGIAN...
..SHE COULD DEAL WITH THE GIRL LATER.
"THAT'S WHY THE GECT TOOK HER." AND WHAT ABOUT HER FAMILY? WHAT DO YOU KNOW?
?!?
OUR FRIEND EJELEP HAS ARRIVED WITH THE THREE TRUCKS..
ARE THERE THIEVES IN THE AREA, GRAMPS?
INSH ALLAH NO. BUT I DON'T WANT ANYONE RUMMAGING AROUND IN MY HOUSE.
IT'S JUST THAT.. I MAY HAVE TO SPEND THE NIGHT IN TOWN
NO NEED TO WORRY. CLIMB IN!
IS YOUR SISTER GETTING MARRIED?

I DON'T RECOMMEND THAT BOOK IT'S A PACK OF LIES!
?
THANK YOU! I PUBLISHED IT
MY CONDOLENCES. I'M OLIVIA'S BROTHER.
EVA DARGOLD SO YOU'RE THE FAMOUS TSAGOI! I DIDN'T IMAGINE YOU SO...
...NOT LIKE THAT
I KNOW.
YOU DIDN'T LIKE YOUR SISTER'S BOOK?
YES! YES, I DID! GYPSY LIKE VERY MUCH... BY THE SAMOVAR'S BALLS! AH! AH!
GYPSY BEAT UP EVERYTHING THAT MOVE! AH! AH!
TSAGOI, WHAT ARE YOU WANTING ABOUT?
NOTHING. I WAS JUST CHATTERING AWAY IN THE COLORFUL KITSCH LANGUAGE DOTTED WITH PEARLS OF GYPSY MYTHOLOGY THAT IS SO CHARACTERISTIC OF ME...

AH! YOU READ "THE DAY OF THE CZAR," AND YOU'RE UPSET
NOT AT ALL. I UNDERSTAND ONLY TOO WELL. THE BOOK WILL SELL MORE COPIES IF THE HEROINE'S BROTHER IS A NEANDERTHAL
OH! TRAITOR! CUT IT OUT. WILL YOU? I WROTE WHAT I SAW, THAT'S ALL
NO. YOU WROTE WHAT YOU LOOKED. WOOD "MADE" A DIFFERENCE
THANKS ANYWAY FOR COMING, BIG BROTHER!
I HAVE LOTS OF THINGS TO TELL YOU.
SO, ZIRLEP... EVERY-THING'S OK I HOPE...
WHEN YOU GAVE ME THE TRUCKS THE HARDEST PART WAS ALREADY DONE
ONE HUNDRED TONS OF DOLLARS TAKEN FROM THE RUSSIAN MAFIA... YOU CAN'T REALLY CALL THAT "STEALING"!
WHAT DO YOU PLAN TO DO WITH IT?
REBUILD THE WHITE WING'S BIRTHPLACE, ZIRLEP.
RESTORE "THE ASSASSINS' PARADISE" TO ALL ITS FORMER SPLENDOR.

SO, EVA, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE BEAST?
YOUR BROTHER? CHARMING. IF ALL TRUCKERS WERE LIKE HIM THE SCS WOULD LOOK LESS LIKE A VIDEO GAME.
AND, JUST BETWEEN US, I THINK YOUR PORTRAYAL OF HIM IN "THE DAY OF THE CLAW" WAS A BIT EXAGGERATED
HEY, PRINCESSES! WHAT'S GOIN' ON HERE? DID YOU PAY FOR MY ROOM?
JUST WAIT TILL HE GOOSES YOU, OR SMACKS YOU ACROSS THE FACE!
I HEAR HE DREAMING REALS LIKE WE'RE IN A LUBITSCH MOVIE
I LOVE LUBITSCH...
OK. THE CHAMPAGNE'S ON ME.
YEAH... BUSINESS IS GOOD! I DELIVERED A MAJOR SHIPMENT OF CAVIAR TO GERMANY LAST SUMMER... THINGS ARE QUIETER THIS YEAR BUT
THE BOATS WING AND OUR FRIEND THE WITCH, WHO HAS BECOME A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON RECENTLY.
GERMANY? WE JUST GOT BACK FROM GERMANY. I'VE COME HERE TO WORK ON MY NEXT BOOK...
OH!...
OH! OH!
WHAT'S IT ABOUT?
AREN'T YOU EATING, ZIRLAPP
3

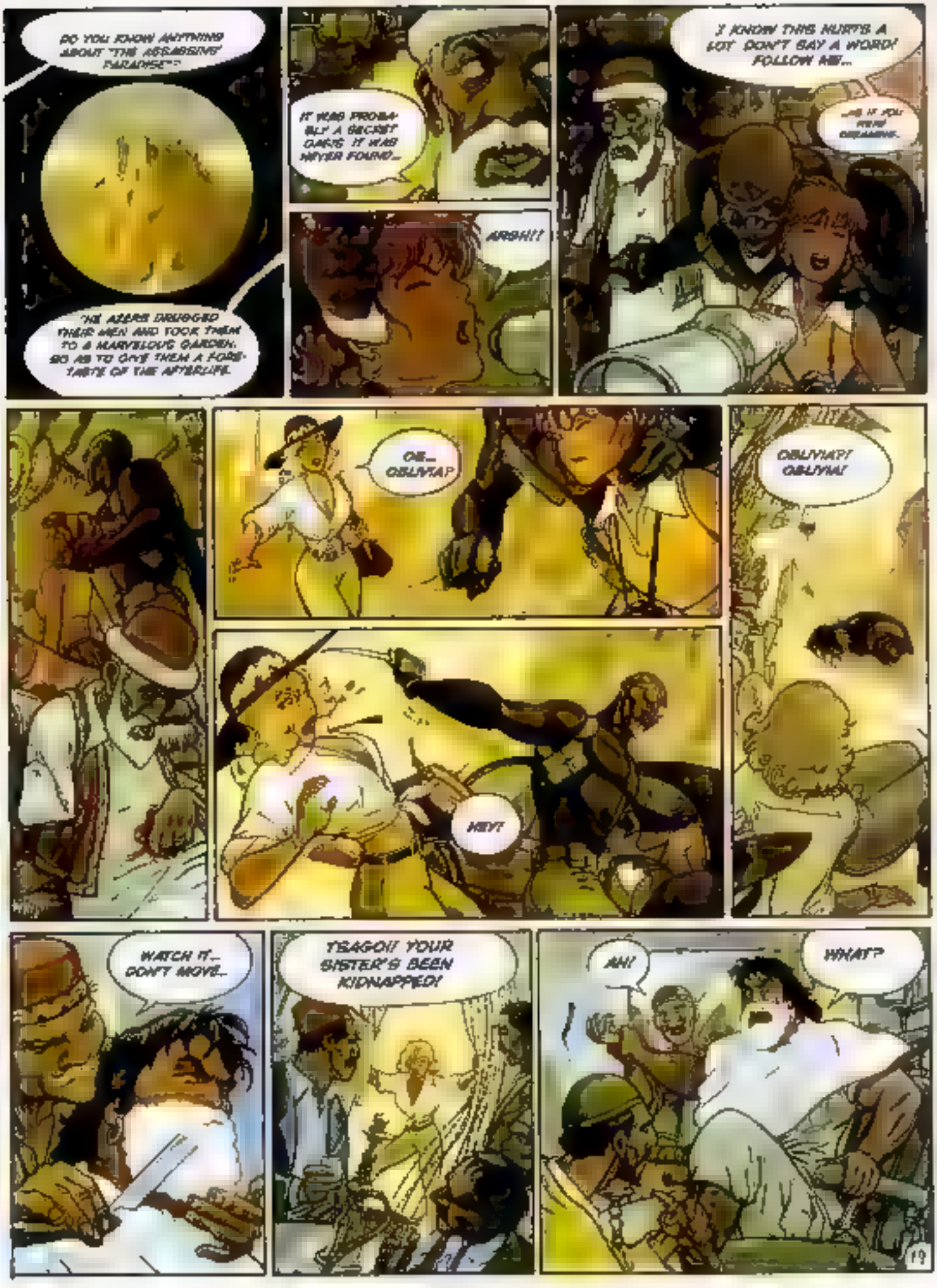
BRRR.. THE RUINS ARE INTERESTING.. BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I WANT TO HAVE A PICNIC HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT.
INTERESTING, HUH? I'M GLAD YOU'RE SO ENTHUSIASTIC.
GHAA !!
YOU KNOW THAT IN THE ERA OF THE AZER FAMILY, HUMAN LIFE DEPENDED ON THE SNAP OF A FINGER?
THE OLD PATRIARCH, FATHER AZER WOULD SOMETIMES PICK A YOUNG GUARD PREFERABLY A GOOD-LOOKING ONE THAT HE HAD ALREADY TAKEN TO BED.
KIF! KOF!
HE WOULD STARE HIM IN THE EYES, AND TAKE NOTE OF THE PARTICULAR SWELL OF HIS FEAR.. AND IF HE DIDN'T LIKE IT
IN YOUR DAGGER LIES PARADISE.


AN EXPLANATION WILL HAVE TO BE GIVEN TO THE COUNCIL OF THE WISE ON MY BEHALF, ZUBAF.
THE WHITE WING HAS RETURNED TO THE NEST OF THE AZERS...
NOTHING WILL BE AS IT WAS BEFORE.
THREE TRUCKS BELONGING TO THE RUSSIAN MAFIA, STOLEN BY THE WHITE WING, IN GERMANY LAST SUMMER?
AND STUFFED FULL OF EURODOLLARS!
AFTER THIS MAJOR HEIST THE WITCH WAS PROMOTED. SHE HAD BEEN RECRUITED AS A CHILD BY THE ORIGINAL WHITE WING. SO SHE KNEW ALL THE INS AND OUTS OF THE ORGANIZATION.
AND THAT'S WHY YOU'VE COME TO AL-DESIR?
YES... AND BECAUSE OF THE WHITE WING, ISAGOI, MY BOOK WILL MAKE SOME SURPRISING REVELATIONS ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION'S HISTORY.
WELL, WELL! YOU LEARN SOMETHING NEW EVERY DAY. WHAT'S THE SOURCE OF YOUR INFORMATION?
YOUR SISTER IS A VERY TALENTED JOURNALIST. SHE LEAVES NO STONE UNTURNED. A REAL PRO.
THE CRITICS HAVE ACCLAIMED "THE BOY OF THE COAST" AS THE "DOCTOR ZHIVAGO" OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY.
THAT EXPLAINS WHY SOME OF THE CHARACTERS IN THE BOOK HAVE SUCH TINY HEADS...
"ZHIVAGO." YEAH!! NOT "JIVARO"!
!?!

HMM. WELL, I'M GOING TO GET SOME WORK DONE GOOD NIGHT!
WHAT ARE YOU THINKING OF?
OF AN OLD MAN WHO LIVES ON A HILL OUTSIDE TOWN.
OH?
HE'S GOT A DIFFICULT DAY AHEAD TOMORROW.
AND WHAT ABOUT HER? YOUR LITTLE BATTLE IS GOING TO BE FURIOUS I CAN ALREADY HEAR HER ROARING!
...AS DAY DAWNS SHE IS STILL HAMMERING AWAY AT HER LAPTOP. SHE HASN'T STOPPED ALL NIGHT."
"PERHAPS SHE HAS DECIDED TO WRITE ABOUT HER PUBLISHER IN HER NEW BOOK..."
...IF THAT'S THE CASE, I WISH YOU LUCK..
OH, LORD! IF SHE DOES THAT TO ME, I'LL KILL MYSELF!

AH AT LAST! I'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR YOU EVERYWHERE. DO YOU SLEEP WELL?
AS WELL AS YOU.
I'VE HEARD THERE'S A POSTCARD VENDOR ON THE RAMPARTS THAT HAS SOME INTERESTING CARDS.
OK. WE'LL MEET YOU THERE TOMORROW AT THE BARBER SHOP.
HE'S STILL PLAYING AT BEING CIVILIZED!
THAT'S YOUR PRESIDENT?
YES, SIR. A HOLY MAN. I SAVED HIM TWELVE YEARS AGO.
I MET A FRIEND OF HIS... AN OLD MAN WHO WAS IN COMMAND OF THE TOWN DURING THE SIEGE.
OLD LAMEK? A NATIONAL HERO! HE SAVED HUNDREDS MAYBE THOUSANDS OF LIVES.
AND YET HE'S STARVING ON HIS HILLSIDE NO ONE TAKES CARE OF HIM.
"ALLAH TAKES CARE OF HIM."
SOME PEOPLE WERE BEGINNING TO WONDER ABOUT YOUR PRESENCE ON THE HILL OF AZER...
...BUT AS OF NOW NEGOTIATIONS WILL GO QUICKLY...

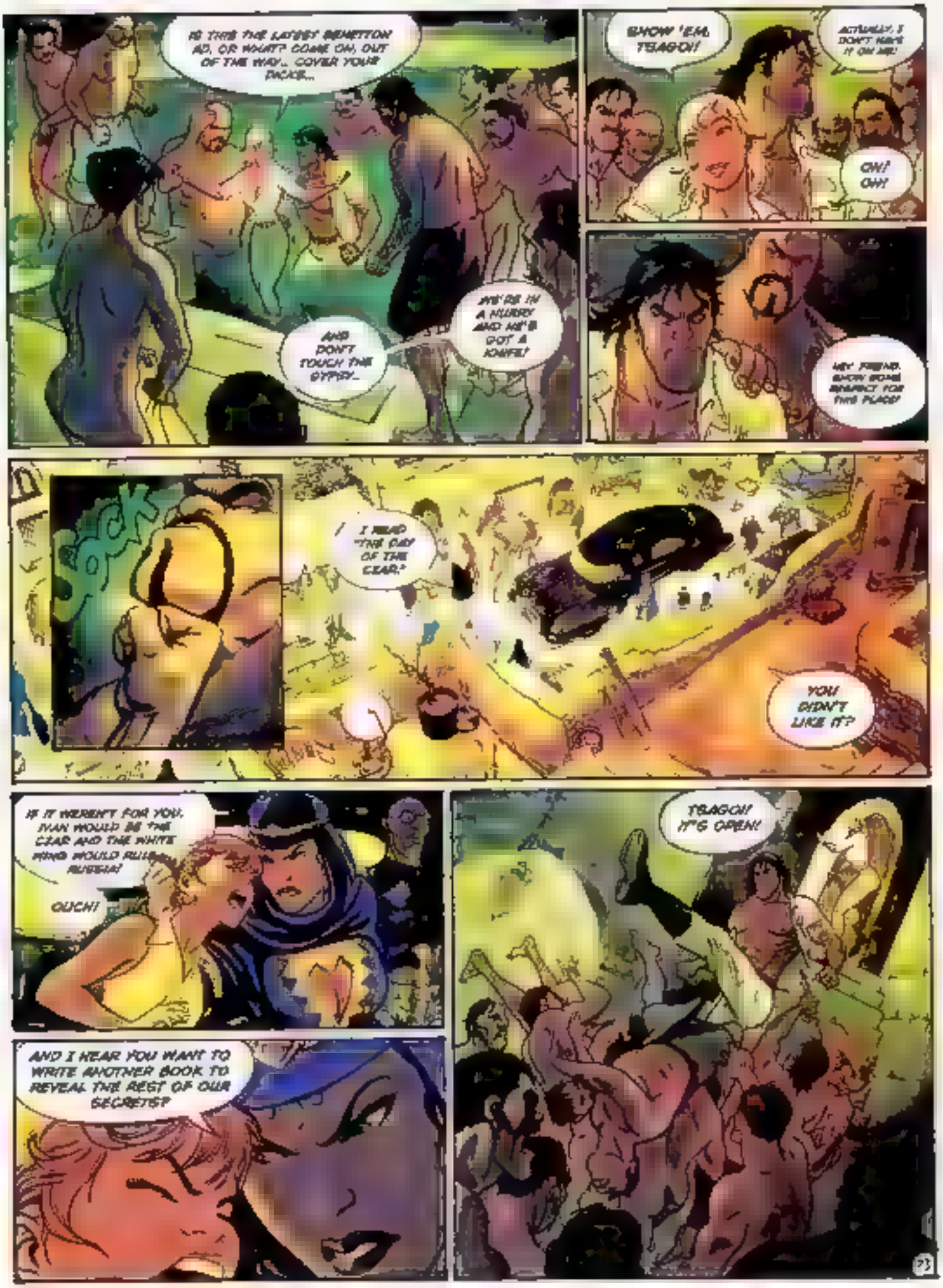
THE DOLLARS ARE ON THEIR WAY AND ALL THE GATES WILL OPEN. LONG LIVE THE REVOLU.
MY MY MY LOOK WHO'S THERE!
YOU SAY THESE DATE FROM BEFORE THE REVOLUTION? DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON "THE WHITE HAND"?
I HAVE THESE PICTURES OF ASER FORT
"THE WHITE HAND" AND "THE ASER CLAN" TWO NAMES FOR THE SAME FAMILY OF VIPERS!
ALL OF THEM EVIL MAGICIANS. FROM FATHER TO SON... LUCKILY, THEIR LINEAGE DIED OUT AFTER THE LIBERATION...
RIGHT. I MUST HAVE A SERIOUS CONVERSATION WITH HER. FIRST OF ALL SHE MUST STOP TREATING PEOPLE LIKE A SAVAGE. HE'S A GREAT GUY
WHAT ABOUT THE FORT?
IT WAS RAZED. YOU CAN SEE THE SITE WITH A TELESCOPE. IT SEEMS SOME FOREIGNERS WANT TO BUY IT TO BUILD A HOTEL.
GO ON NOW... SLOWLY...


DO YOU KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT "THE ASSASSINS' PARADISE"?
THE AZERS DRUGGED THEIR MEN AND TOOK THEM TO A MARVELOUS GARDEN, SO AS TO GIVE THEM A FORETASTE OF THE AFTERLIFE.
IT WAS FROM A SECRET OASIS. IT WAS NEVER FOUND...
ARGH!!
I KNOW THIS HURTS A LOT. DON'T SAY A WORD! FOLLOW ME...
...AS IF YOU WERE DREAMING.
OH... OLIVIA?
OLIVIA?! OLIVIA!
HEY!
WATCH IT... DON'T MOVE...
TSAGOI! YOUR SISTER'S BEEN KIDNAPPED!
AH!
WHAT?
19

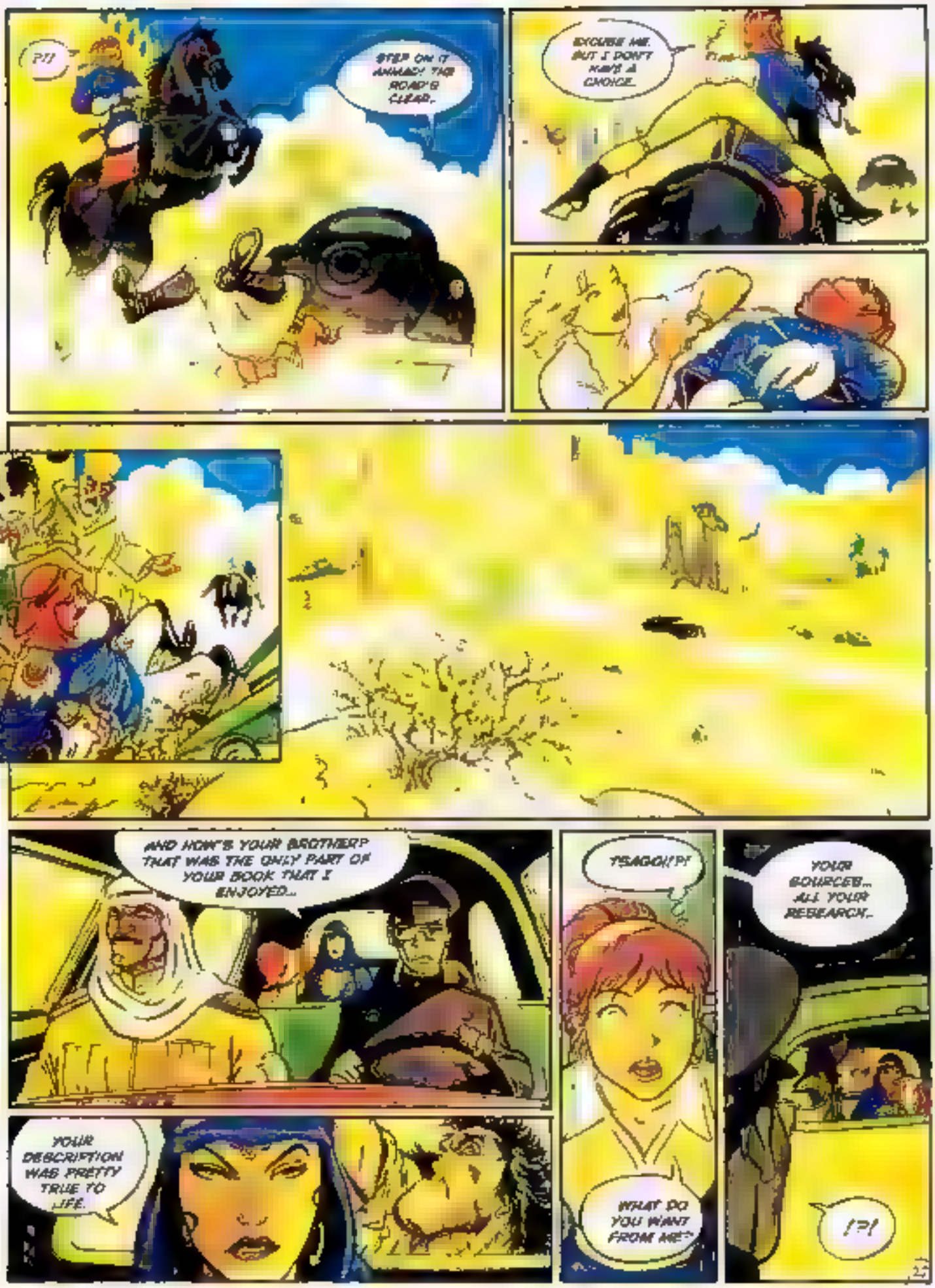
BY THE BLOOD OF THE ROMS!
ARREST THAT MAN.
HUH?!
THIS IS AN EMERGENCY! DRACJ!
WHERE IS OBLIVIA? WHO TOOK HER?
SHE'S IN A CAR... SHE'S ALREADY FAR AWAY. DOWN THERE...
IS THAT SHAVING CREAM?
NO! I'M RABID!
WHICH CAR? HURRY!
OH. YEAH! I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING. I DON'T HAVE MY CONTACT LENSES!
OK. HERE GOES NOTHING!
AH!

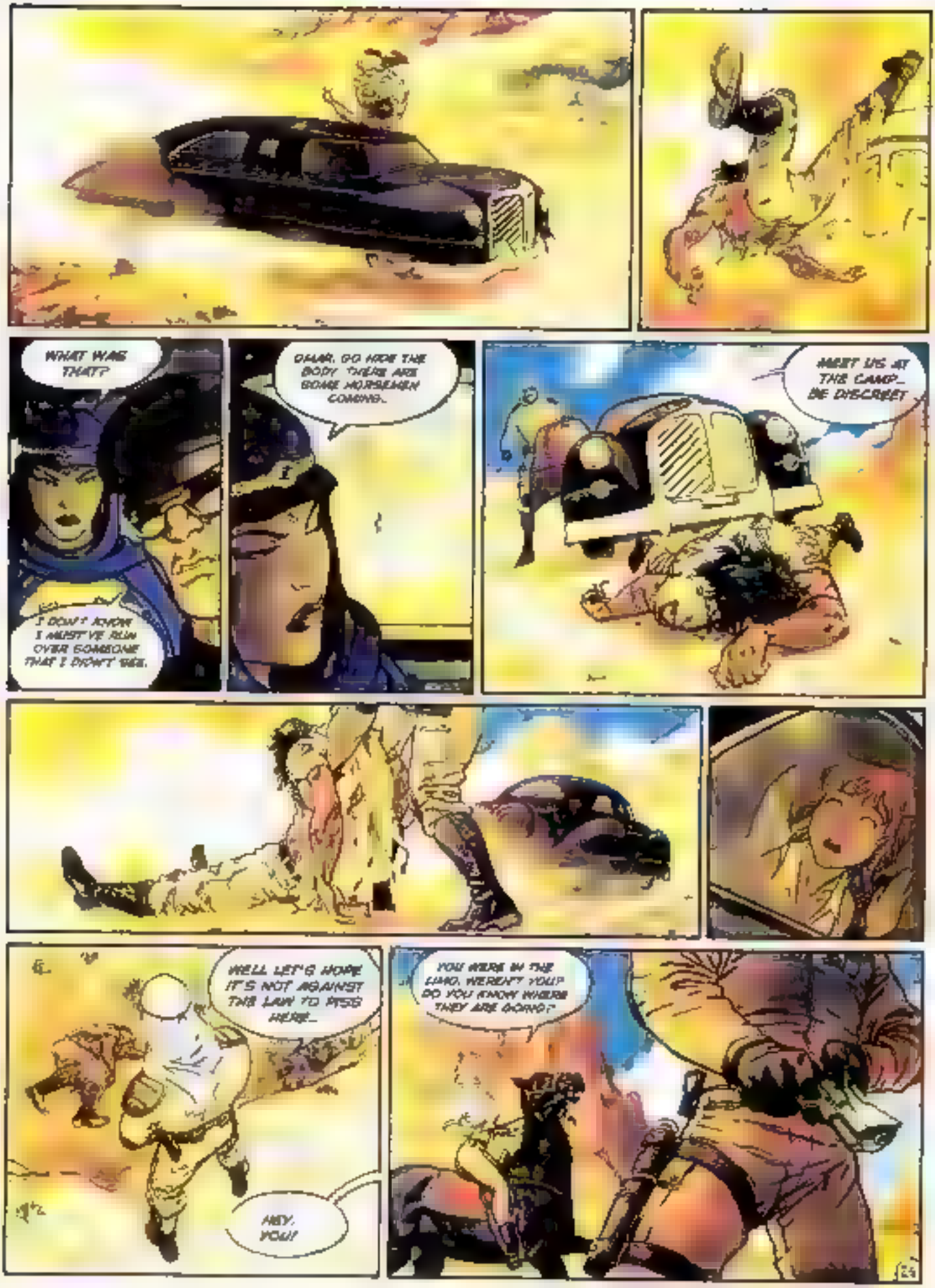
...AND SO MY BOYS, IF I BECOME COLONEL, I'LL GET THE NEXT MODEL MERCEDES...
THE PENSIONS OFFICE, PLEASE.
I'M BUSY ASK SOMEONE ELSE.
TSARSKI! WAIT FOR ME!
ORDER SOME DANCING GIRLS!
AND DRINKS FOR EVERYONE!
PF
WHAT'S THAT OFFICER'S NAME?
COLONEL TUPEDI
ARE YOU SURE? AND WHAT'S HE CELEBRATING?
A MAJOR EPIDEMIC OF GREENBACKS!
21

TEARGO!! I'M FALLING!
HUH?
AAAHH!
OOMPH!
AH! AND TO THINK THAT YESTERDAY I HAD MY NOSE IN THE SAND AND MY HAND AROUND A KALASHNIKOV
OFFICERS ENJOYING THEMSELVES: THAT'S A RARE SIGHT!
CRAAA
WASSHH
?!
AAH!
OOOAOH!
WOMEN ARE NOT ALLOWED HERE!
OH!
BOBBY I WON'T DO IT AGAIN...
HEY S?
22


IS THIS THE LATEST BENETTON AD, OR WHAT? COME ON, OUT OF THE WAY... COVER YOUR BACKS...
AND DON'T TOUCH THE GYPSY...
WE'RE IN A HURRY AND HE'S GOT A KNIFE!
SHOW 'EM, TSAGOI!
ACTUALLY, I DON'T HAVE IT ON ME!
OH! OH!
HEY FRIEND, SHOW SOME RESPECT FOR THIS PLACE!
CRACK
I READ "THE DAY OF THE CZAR."
YOU DIDN'T LIKE IT?
IF IT WEREN'T FOR YOU, IVAN WOULD BE THE CZAR AND THE WHITE KING WOULD RULE RUSSIA!
OUCH!
TSAGOI! IT'S OPEN!
AND I HEAR YOU WANT TO WRITE ANOTHER BOOK TO REVEAL THE REST OF OUR SECRETS?
23

THAT WAS CLOSER TO YOUR SISTER'S DESCRIPTION.
DEEP-POINTED?
NO! YOUR VIOLENCE EXCITES ME! MMMM...
TSAGOI... THE CAR... OBLIVIA!
BY ALL THE GYPSY LOVERS! LITTLE SISTER!
HEY!
CLANK

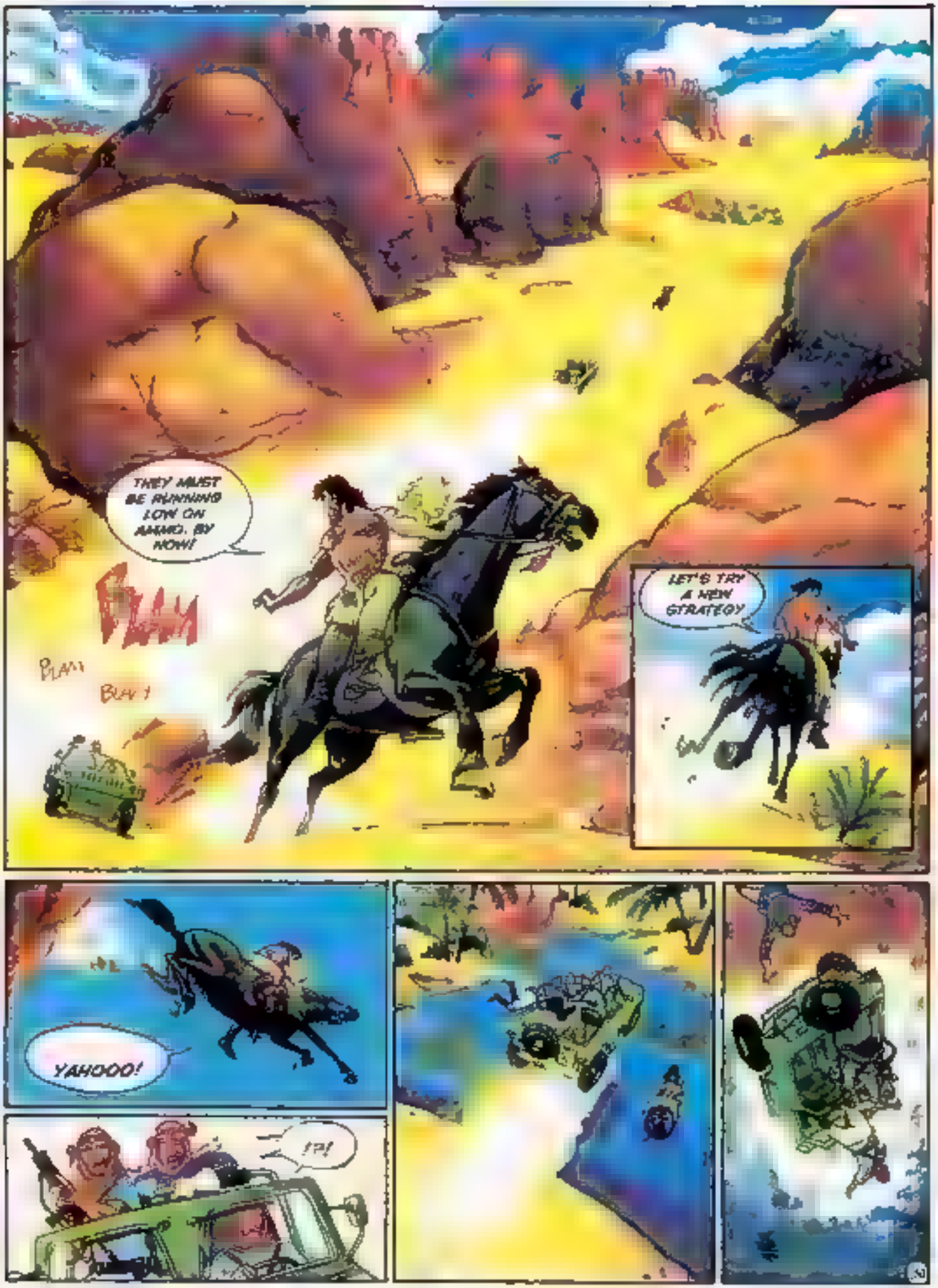

PT!
STEP ON IT ANIMAL! THE ROAD'S CLEAR.
EXCUSE ME. BUT I DON'T HAVE A CHOICE.
AND HOW'S YOUR BROTHER? THAT WAS THE ONLY PART OF YOUR BOOK THAT I ENJOYED...
YOUR DESCRIPTION WAS PRETTY TRUE TO LIFE.
YSAGO!?!
WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
YOUR SOURCES... ALL YOUR RESEARCH..
!?!

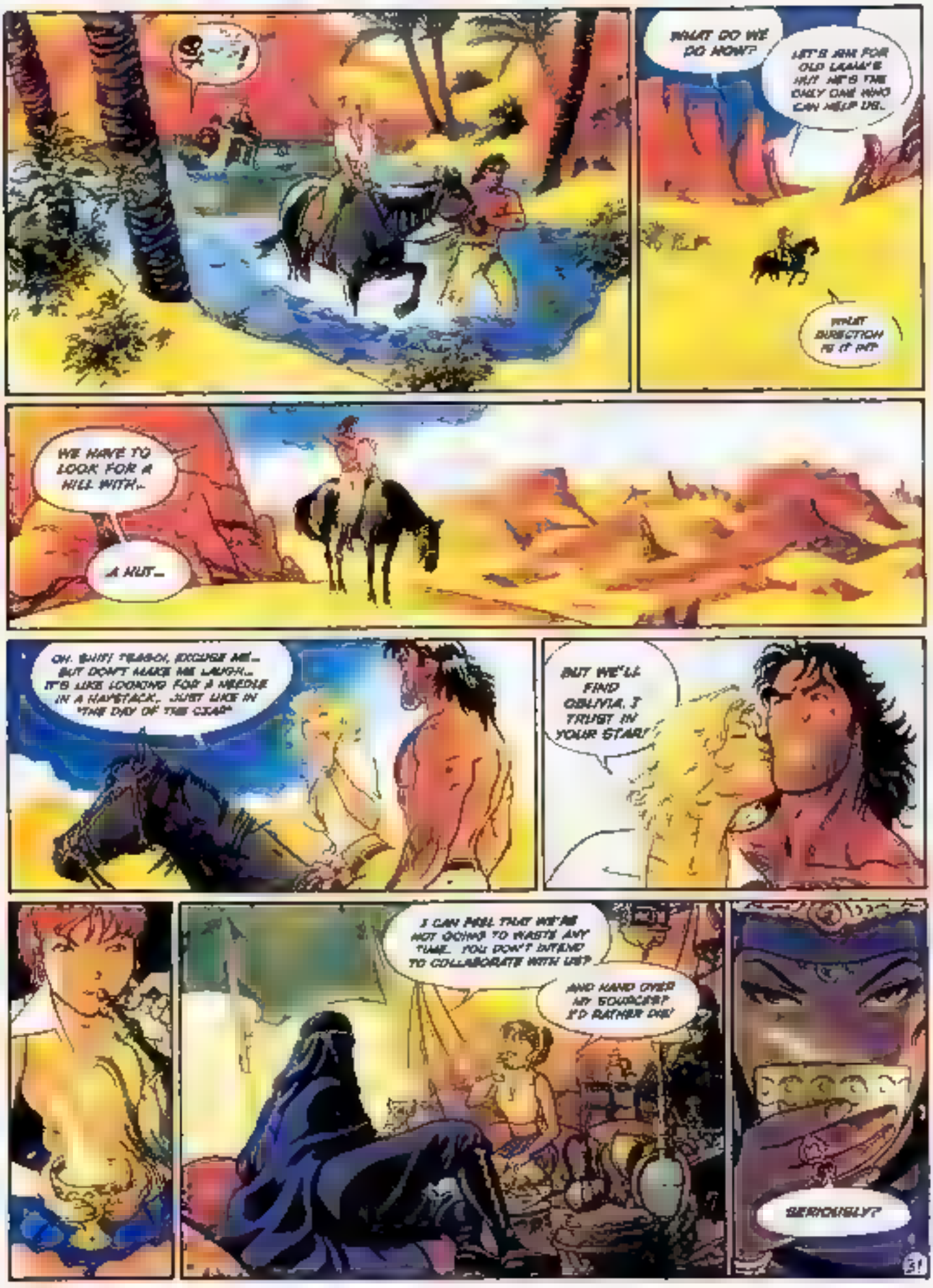

WHAT WAS THAT?
I DON'T KNOW. I MUST'VE RUN OVER SOMEONE THAT I DIDN'T SEE.
OMAR, GO HIDE THE BODY! THERE ARE SOME HORSEMEN COMING.
MEET US AT THE CAMP... BE DISCREET
WELL, LET'S HOPE IT'S NOT AGAINST THE LAW TO PASS HERE...
HEY, YOU!
YOU WERE IN THE LAND, WEREN'T YOU? DO YOU KNOW WHERE THEY ARE GOING?

I'LL TAKE YOU THERE, MA'AM...
AARRGH!
JUST TRY!
MAY THE WHITE WING HELP ME! ARE YOU GONNA DIE, OR WHAT?!
PAW
TWO AGAINST ONE HUH? IT DIDN'T SEEM TO HELP...
ORACLE! OH, YES IT DID!
AH!
TRUCK, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT? NOTHING BROKEN?
A BIT BEAT UP. DIDJA HEAR HIM?
MY SISTER WAS KIDNAPPED BY THE WHITE WING!

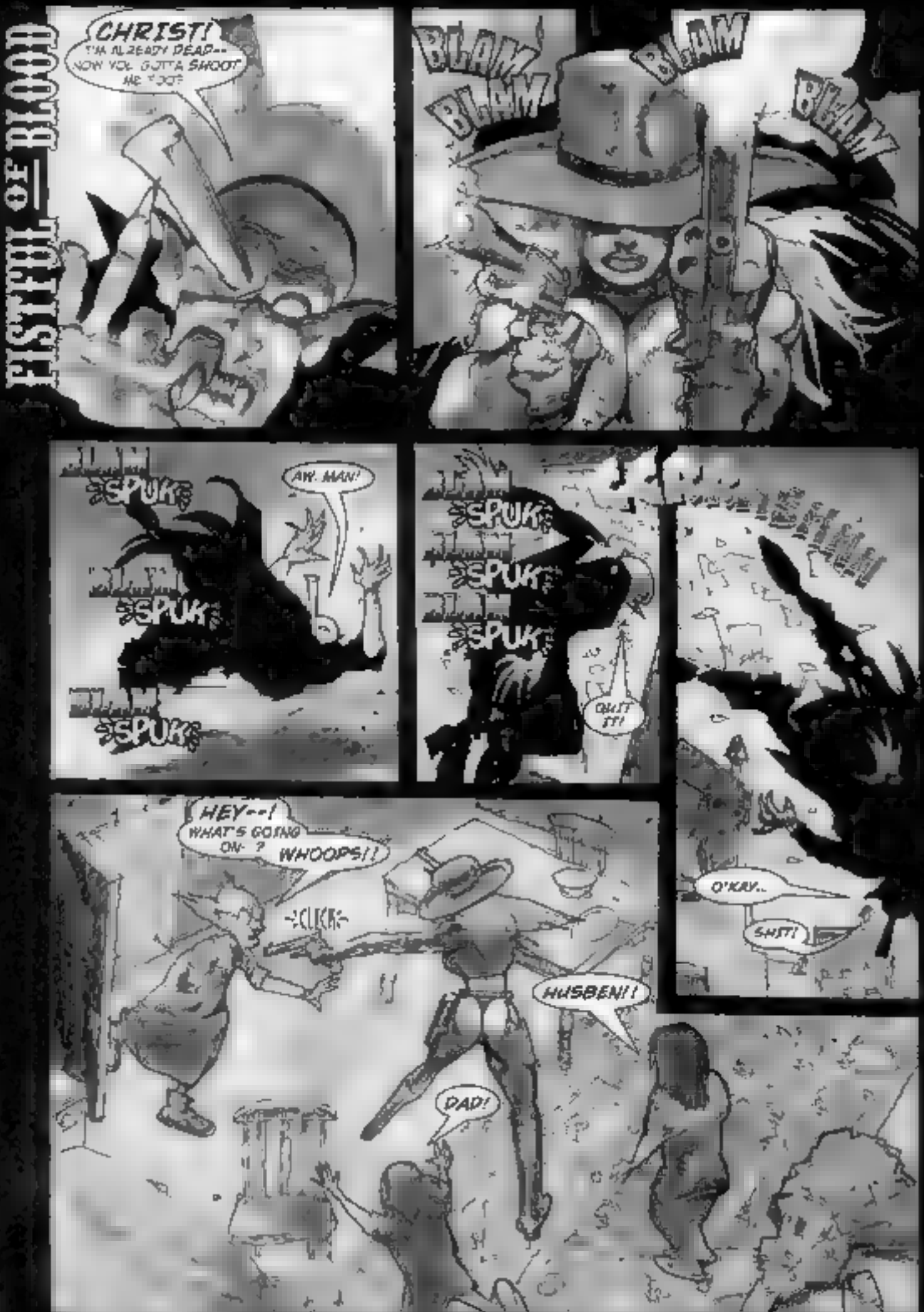
THIS ROAD LEADS TO AZER FORT. IT WAS ONE OF THE PLACES THAT OBLIVIA AND I WANTED TO VISIT...
WHAT DID SHE THINK SHE'D FIND THERE?
THE WHITE WIND'S BIRTHPLACE.
OH SHIT WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT!
VROOM
THE POLICE! I STOLE A COP'S HORSE!
THE POLICE. HMM...
BUM BUM BUM BUM
THROW DOWN YOUR ARMS!
ZINK
ZINK
PAW
KRASH
CRASH
LET'S GET OUTTA HERE!
HEY! WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO RIDE LIKE THAT?
IN MY RANCH. IN ARIZONA.
28

WHAT IT'S PRETTY HUNT HERE! ALMOST THE FUNDAMENTALIST AUTHORITIES TRIED TO STOP YOU?
NO... WE'RE JUST EVALUATING THE SITE... WITH A VIEW TO FUTURE CHANGES...
YOU'RE NOT ASSEMBLY? DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS OPERATION MAKES ME THINK OF?
OF THE PREPARATIONS FOR A COUP D'ETAT... OUCH!
SIR? DID YOU FIND THE PENSIONS OFFICE?
SIR?
INSH ALLAH! WHAT MUST BE DONE WILL BE DONE!
29


THEY MUST BE RUNNING LOW ON AMMO, BY NOW!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM !
LET'S TRY A NEW STRATEGY
YAHOOO!
!?!


!
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
LET'S ASK FOR OLD LAMA'S HUT. HE'S THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HELP US.
WHAT DIRECTION IS IT IN?
WE HAVE TO LOOK FOR A HILL WITH...
A HUT...
OH, SHIT! TEASOX, EXCUSE ME... BUT DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH... IT'S LIKE LOOKING FOR A NEEDLE IN A HAYSTACK... JUST LIKE IN "THE DAY OF THE CIAO"
BUT WE'LL FIND OLIVIA. I TRUST IN YOUR STAR!
I CAN FEEL THAT WE'RE NOT GOING TO WASTE ANY TIME... YOU DON'T INTEND TO COLLABORATE WITH US?
AND HAND OVER MY SOURCE?! I'D RATHER DIE!
SERIOUSLY?
31

CONTINUED ON PAGE 105


PISTOL OF BLOOD
CHRIST! I'M ALREADY DEAD-- NOW YOU GOTTA SHOOT ME TOO?
BLAM BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
SPUK
SPUK
SPUK
AW. MAN!
SPUK
SPUK
SPUK
QUIT IT!
BLAM
O'KAY..
SHIT!
HEY--! WHAT'S GOING ON-?
WHOOPS!!
-CLICK-
HUSBEN!!
DAD!

THERE SHE IS!!

WE ARE SO OVER YOU FREAK IT'S OVER!
AND WE THINK YOU SMELL BAD!
FUCK
FISSS
HEH SO WHAT NOW?
BITCH!
SLUT!
WHORE
I KINDA LIKE HER
AH-HAH--! CAUGHT YA!
STOMP
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO?!
WINCH!

DARLING WIFE I LOVE YOU SO BUT I CAN'T DO THIS LIKE THIS IT'S NOT RIGHT
THIS IS OUR ONLY CHANCE. BUT I CAN'T LET ANOTHER SUFFER AND DIE FOR IT...
THAT'S WHY I LOVE YOU HUSBEN.
SMELLY NO TALKING BITCH!
PUNCH
DECK
SMASH
WHACK
HERE WE GO - NOW WE'LL HAVE SOME FUN!
BA-BOOM!!
GAH!

HOLY O' JUMPED UP JESUS H. CHRIST-- WHAT WAS THAT?!!
GAS?!
SHE WIRED THE BUILDING BUT, THOUGHT I CAUGHT IT. NOW LOOK!
OKAY-- SO NOW I'M PISSED!!
THAT'S HER HAT...
WHERE IS SHE?!
LOOK AT THIS FRICKEN MESS-- PART OF THE TOWN IS BLOWN TO BITS, AND--
NO FUCKING TIME FOR "ANDS"... THIS EXPOLSION WILL BRING THE COPS-- FIND HER NOW!!

THIS IS A... YOUR FAULT ZOMBIE ASS-- NOW IT'S TIME TO KICK YOUR ASS ONCE AND FOR ALL!
WE DIDN'T DO IT YOU LOW-LIFE CREASE-- IF YOU WANT TO MAKE SOMETHING OUT OF IT-- COME ON!!
YOU FUCKING CUNT!!
YOU FUCKING CUNT!!
YOU. !!
YOU. !!
CUNT!!
CUNT!!
HEY GUYS. !! I JUST WANT TO REMIND YOU THE BIKER CONVENTION STARTS TOMORROW!
COME ON ALREADY-- PUT THIS OUT
WHERE IS SHE?!

DICKHEAD!
CUNT! NICE FIRE. HOW ABOUT WE CHECK THE OTHER BUILDINGS FOR BOMBS?
I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR SAVING ME AND MY FAMILY. BUT I SHOULDN'T DEAL WITH A MESS LIKE RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS WORLD
I BLEW THE DOOR WITH THE BOMB I FOUND SO I'M HERE SO I CAN GET YOU TO SAFETY
THIS IS A PERFECT PLACE TO HIDE. NONE OF THOSE BASTARDS WILL COME INTO A CHURCH.
YOU REST I'LL GET US SOME FOOD--

BLAM
BLAM BLAM BLAM
WHOA--!
WAIT--!!
EASE DOWN!
DANCE, IDIOT DANCE!
I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU CAME BACK BUT YOU ARE SCREWED!!
NOW WE'LL NEED OK YOU
THIS MIGHT HURT A LITTLE-- BUT MOST LIKELY ALLOT! HEH!
COPS!!

SHIT--COPS!!
LISTEN OLD ASS- YOU WILL LOVER FOR US LIKE BEFORE OR I WILL SPEND THE REST OF MY LIFE KILLING YOU, YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR FRENDS PETS. EVERYTHING. UNDERSTAND?!
LIFE FUCKING SUCKS
I SAW A BIG LIGHT IN THE SKY- YOU OKAY COPS?
UM- YEAH SURE- FINE
REMEMBER YOU- THE HOTEL GUY
YEAH-- I WAS BURNING SOME OLD BRUSH- EVERYTHINGS FINE- JUST CLEANING UP!
HMMM OKAY I GUESS
NEXT TIME GET A PERMIT FIRST HUH?
SURE!
I'M GOING TO GET MY SORRY ASS OUT OF HERE BEFORE ANYONE ASKS
WEIRD GUY

OH! WHERE WERE WE?!
YOU WERE GOING TO LET ME OUT!
HEY GANG, HERE COME THE

...BIKERS!
WELL WHAT A SURPRISE!
HI THERE PRETTY BOYS-
WELCOME TO TOWN- HEH!
"PRETTY BOYS?"- YOU SOME KIND O' FAG!?!
..ET'S HEAD OUT
OW!
DID SOMEBODY SAY HEAD?!

WHEW BOY-- DO YOU SEE THAT?!
MAN WHAT FUN--! ANOTHER TAKERS?!
TAKERS?! WE'RE ABOUT TO BECOME YOUR WORST NIGHTMARE!
BLAM
BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM BLAM
KKA-BAMM
BRRRRAAAP!!!
BOOM
BAMM
BAMM BAMM
ACTUALLY, I THINK YOU'VE FOUND YOUR--
KA-BAMM
POW
POW
BAMM BAMM
BLAM
BBBRRAAPPTTTTT
TO BE CONTINUED...

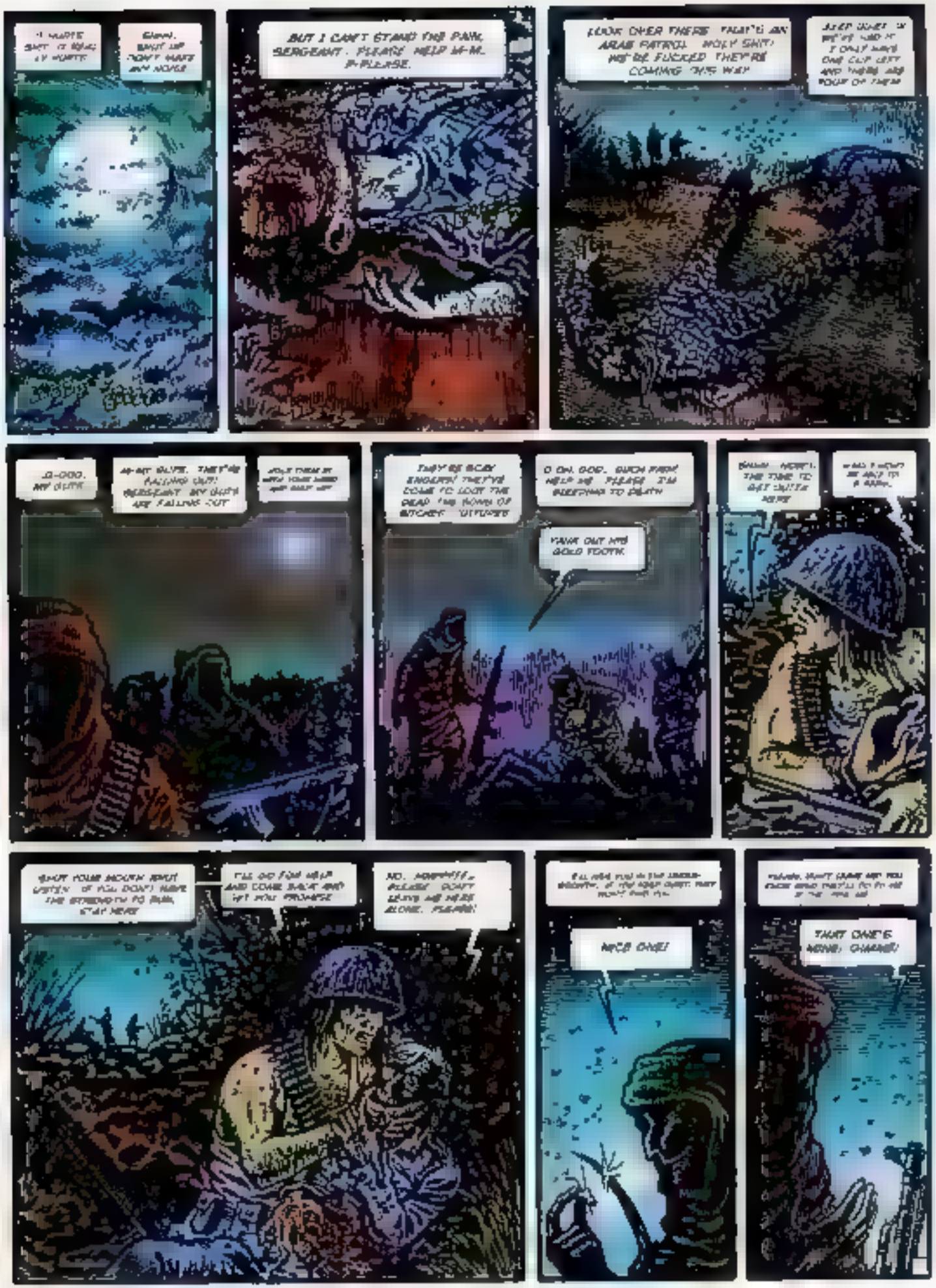
THE PURGATORY
Special graphic report

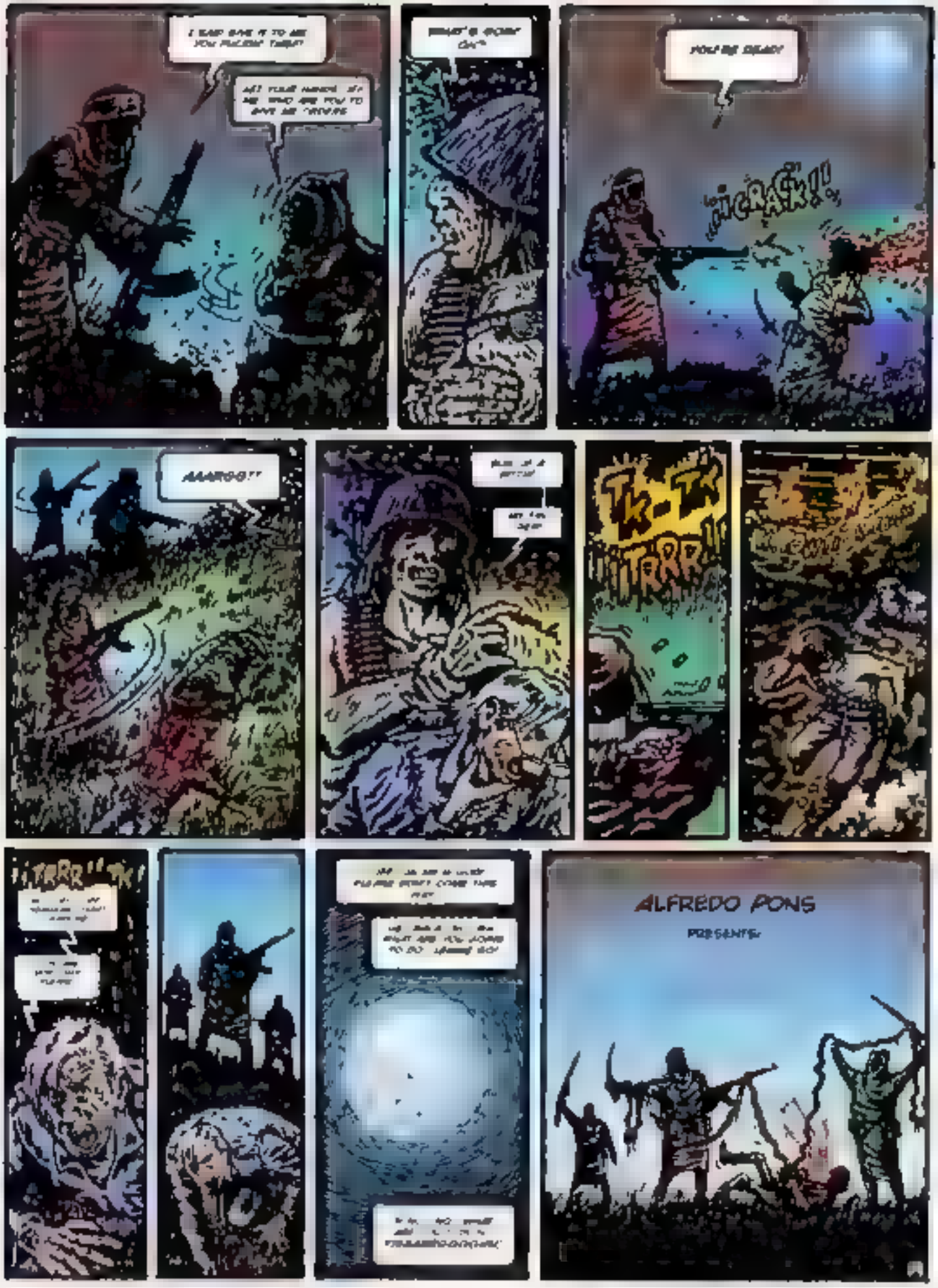
Newsweek

January, 1999

THE INTERNATIONAL NEWSMAGAZINE

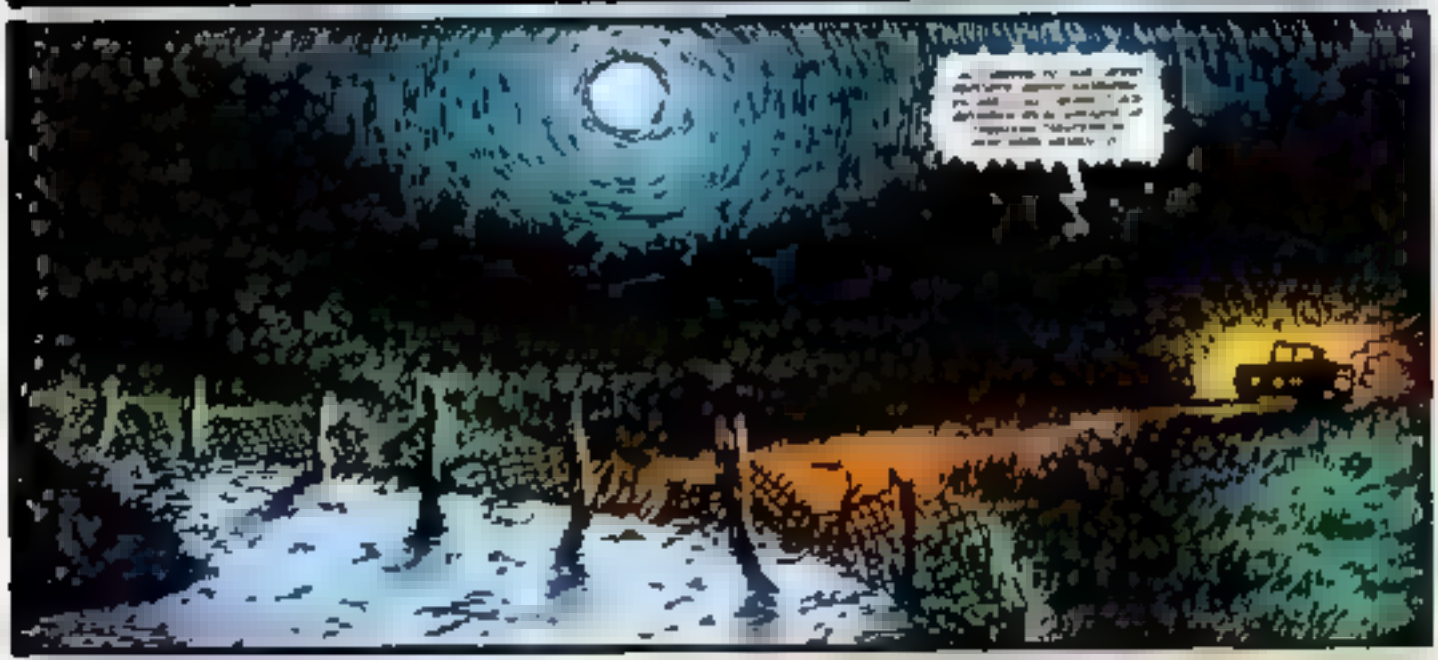
THE LAST WAR

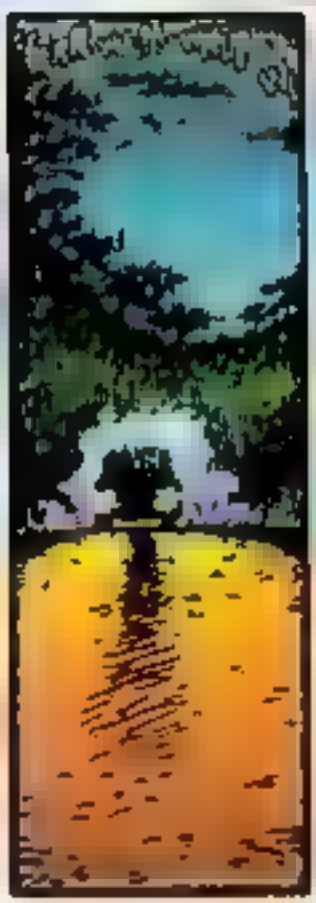

I HURT SHIT IT REAL BAD HURTS
SHHH. SHUT UP DON'T MAKE ANY NOISE
BUT I CAN'T STAND THE PAIN, SERGEANT. PLEASE HELP M-M-M-PLEASE.
LOOK OVER THERE. THAT'S AN ARAB PATROL. HOLY SHIT! WE'RE FUCKED THEY'RE COMING THIS WAY
JUST WHAT IF WE'VE HAD IT I ONLY HAVE ONE CLIP LEFT AND THERE ARE FOUR OF THEM
G-GOD. MY GUTS
M-MY GUTS. THEY'RE FALLING OUT! SERGEANT MY GUTS ARE FALLING OUT
THEY'RE SCARY ENGLISH THEY'VE COME TO LOOT THE DEAD THE KING OF BITCHES' DIVIDES
O OH, GOD. SUCH PAIN HELP ME PLEASE I'M BLEEDING TO DEATH
HAVE OUT HIS GOLD TOOTH.
SHUT YOUR MOUTH RIGHT UNDER OR YOU DON'T HAVE THE STRENGTH TO RUN, STAY HERE
I'LL GO FOR HELP AND COME BACK AND IF YOU PROMISE
NO. NOOOOO!!! PLEASE DON'T LEAVE ME HERE ALONE. PLEASE!
I'LL HEAL YOU IN THE SHOULDER. IF YOU KEEP QUIET THEY WON'T FIND YOU.
NICE ONE!
THAT ONE'S MINE! CHARGE!

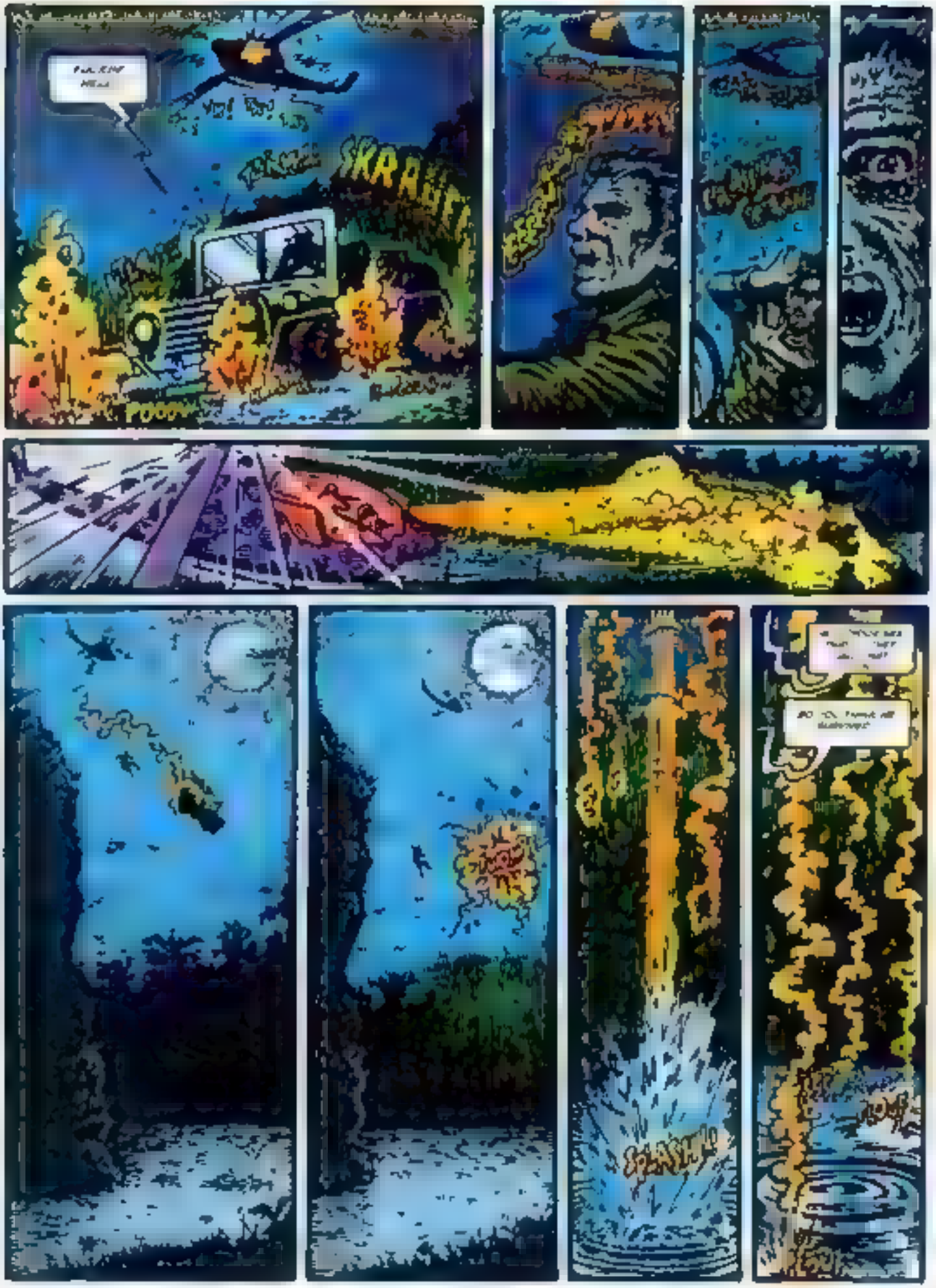

I HAD GIVE IT TO ME YOU FILTHY THING!!
WHAT'S WRONG GUY?
YOU'RE DEAD!
¡¡¡GRAK!!!
AAARGG!!
TK-TK TRRR!!
¡¡¡TRRR!! TK!
ALFREDO PONS
PRESENTS:

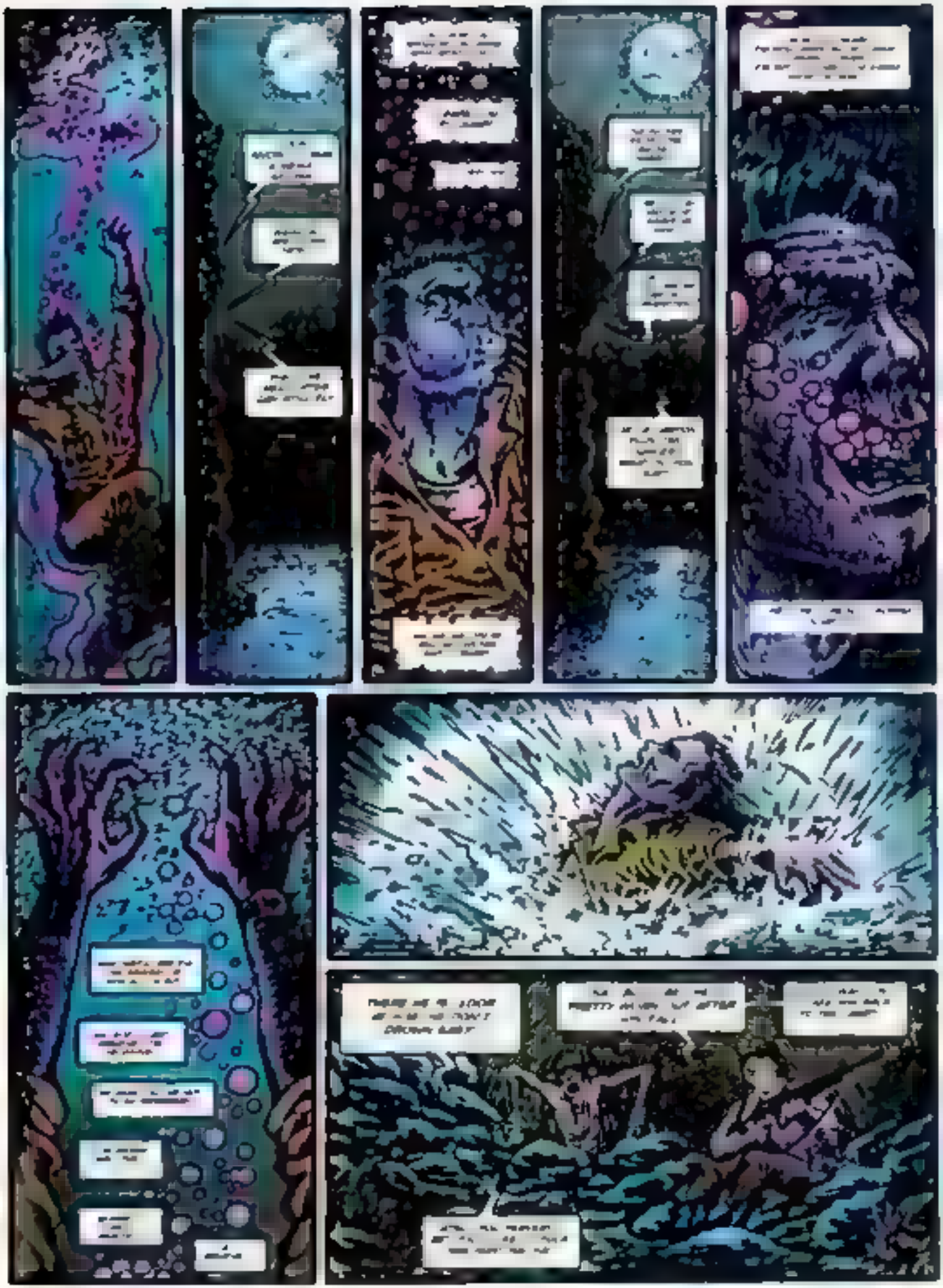
THE LAST WAR

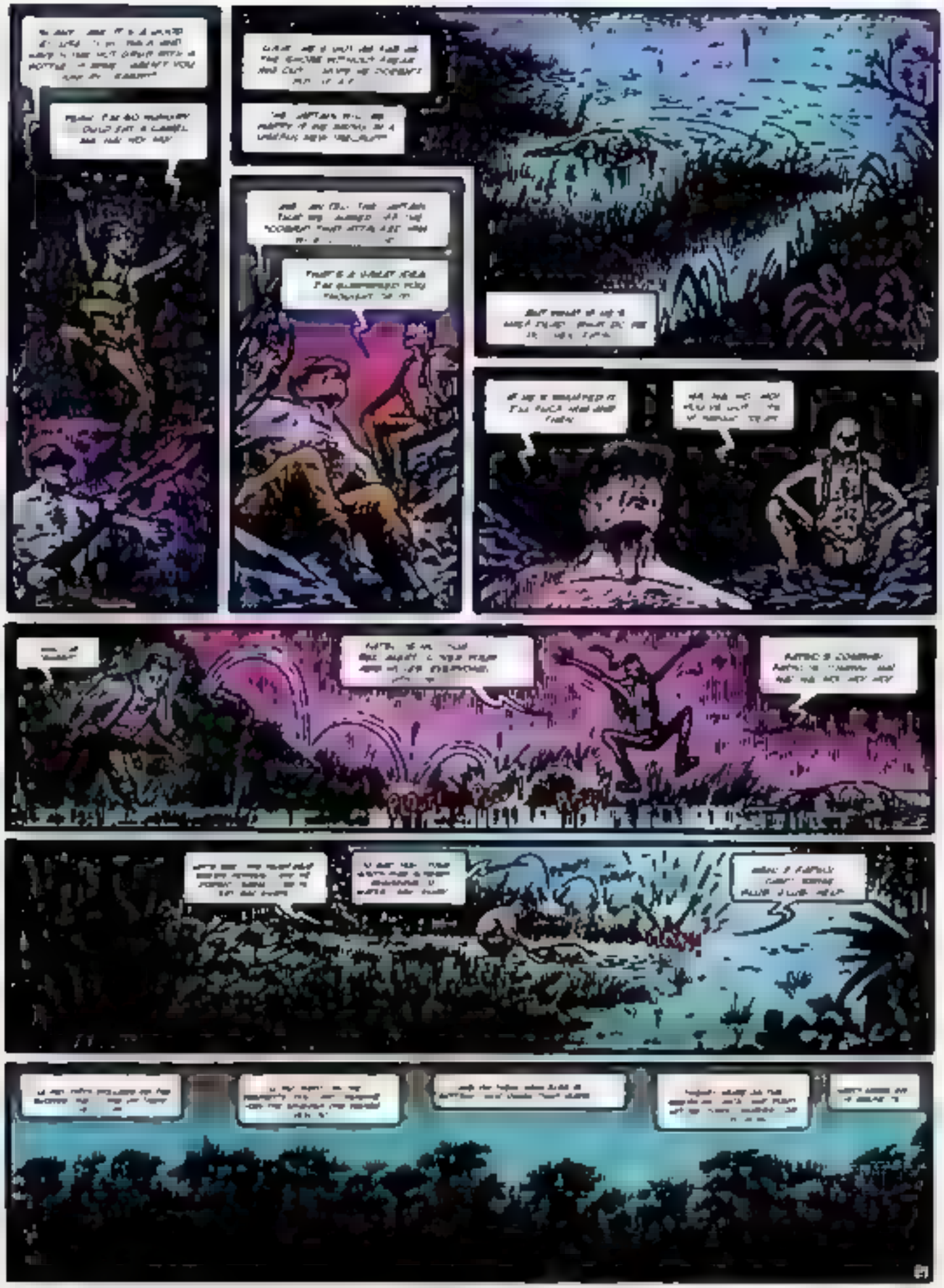
PURGATORY

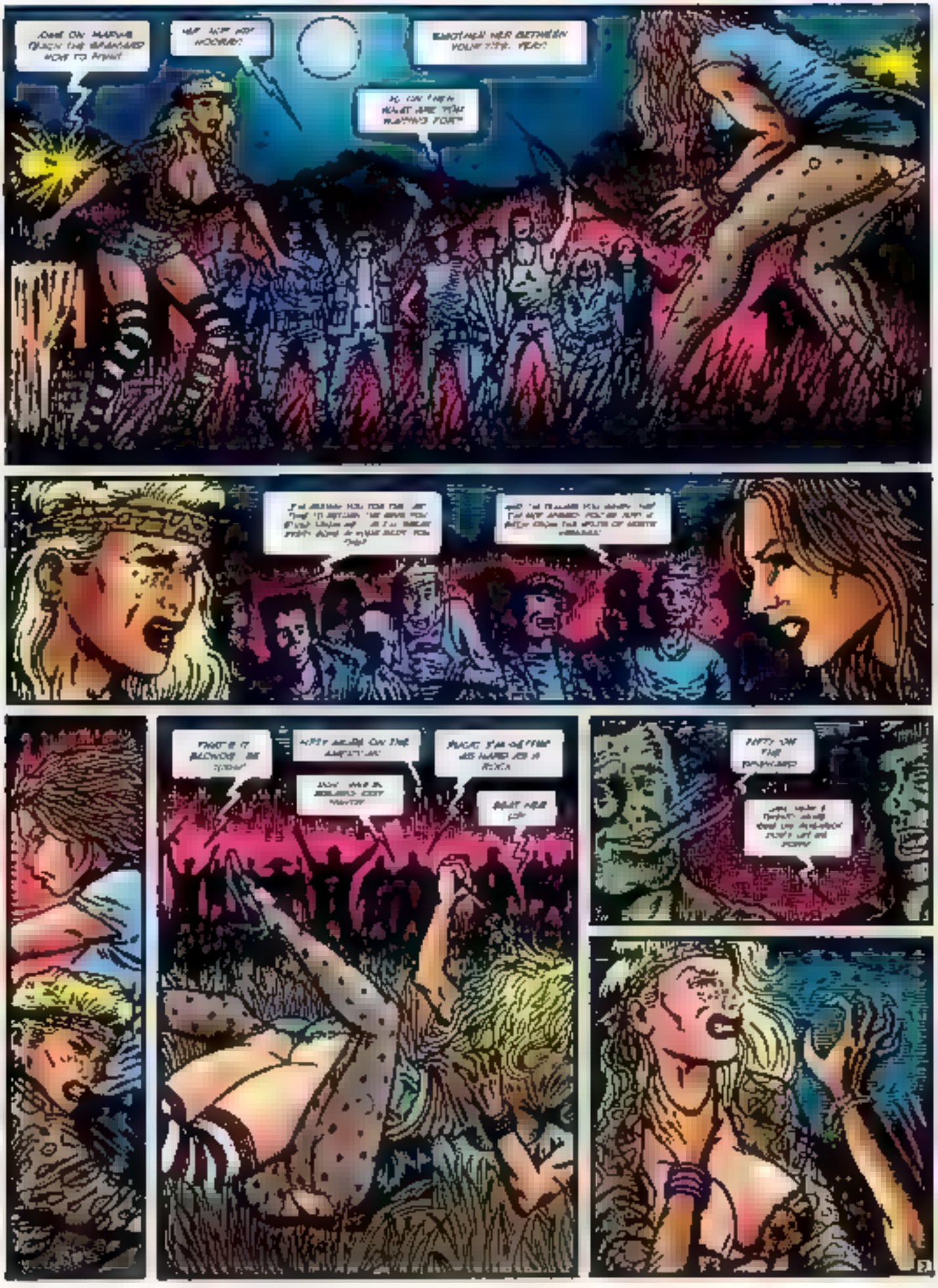


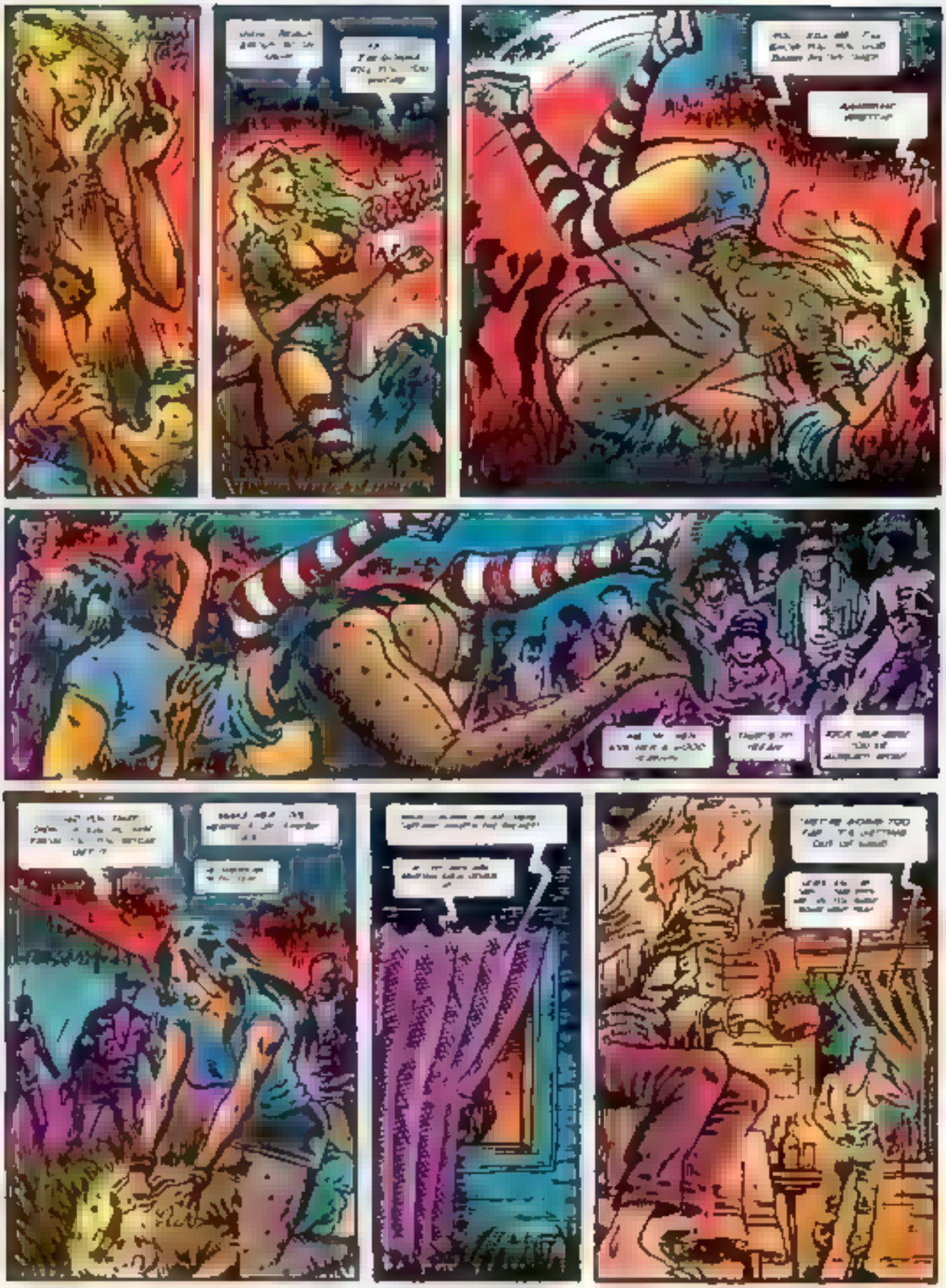


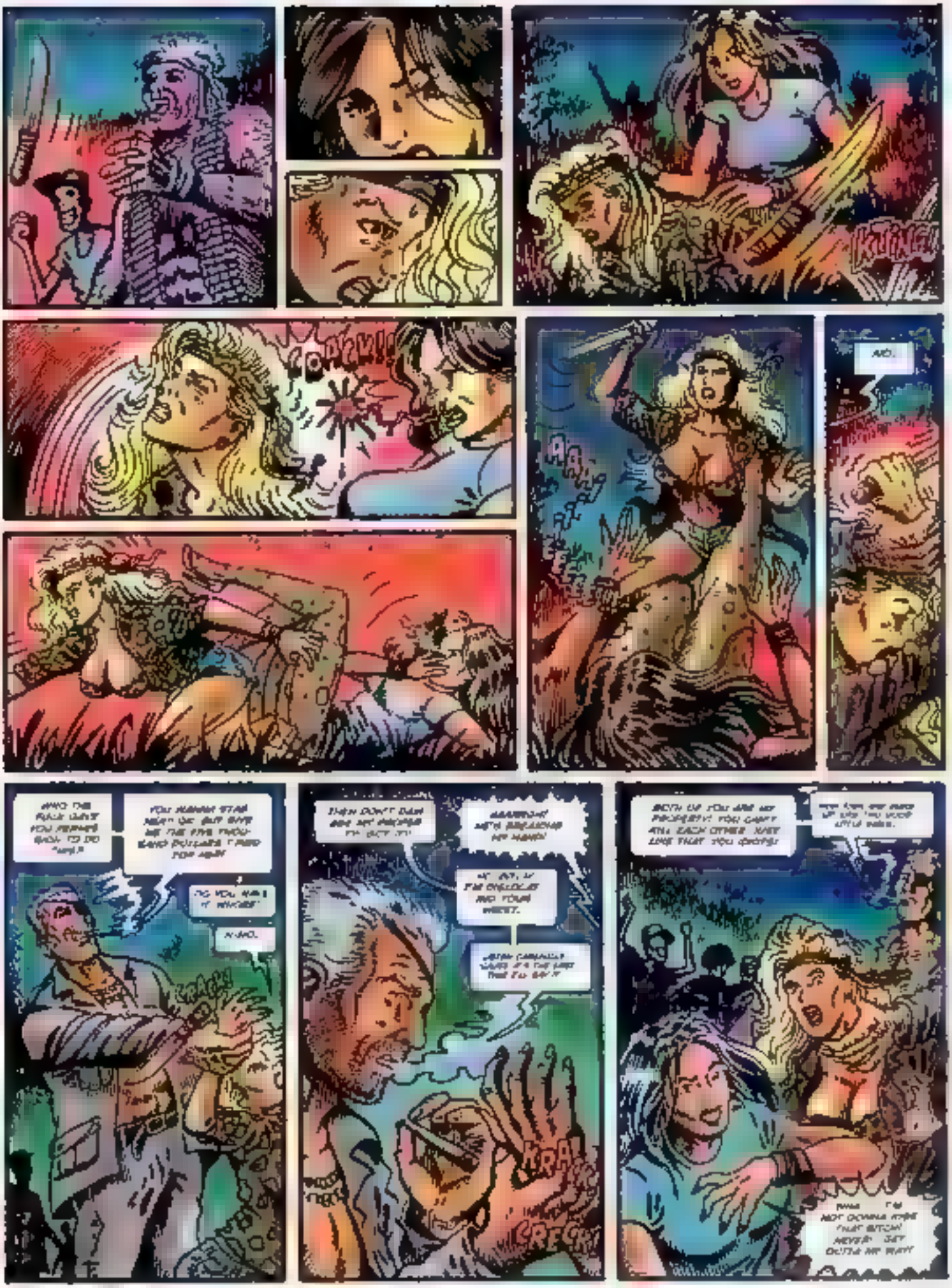

SKRAKK!
POOOM
SPLASH!

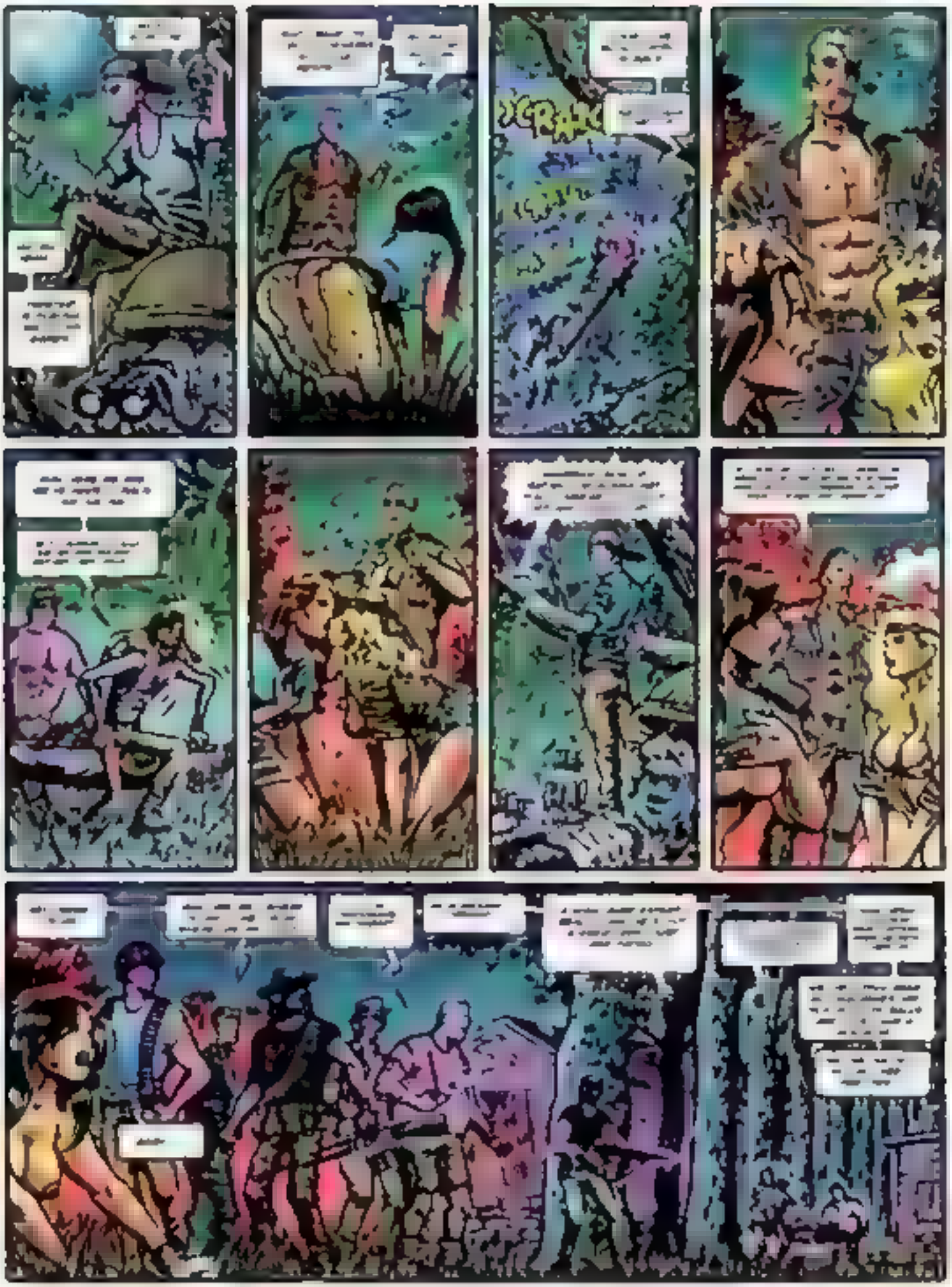


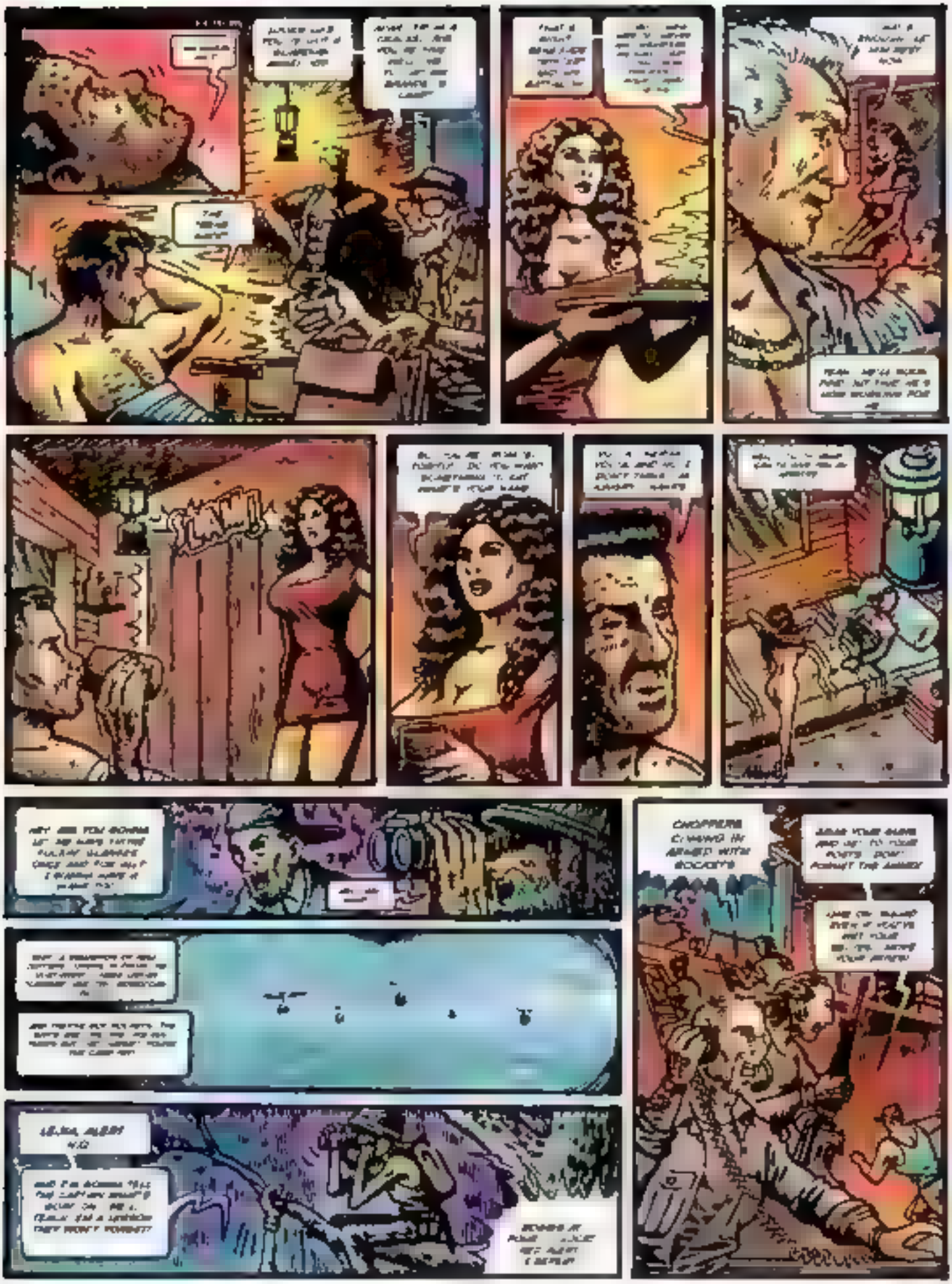


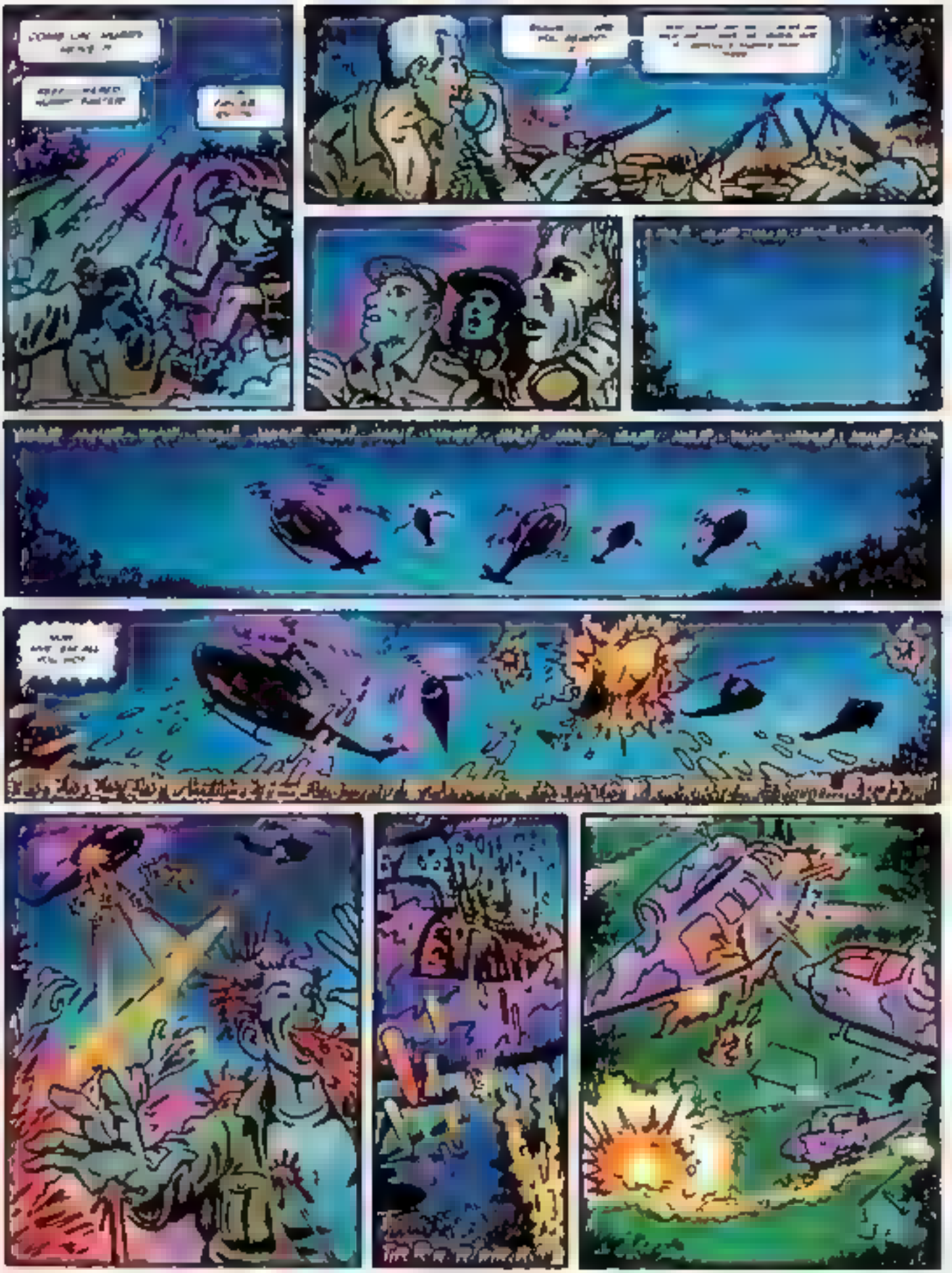


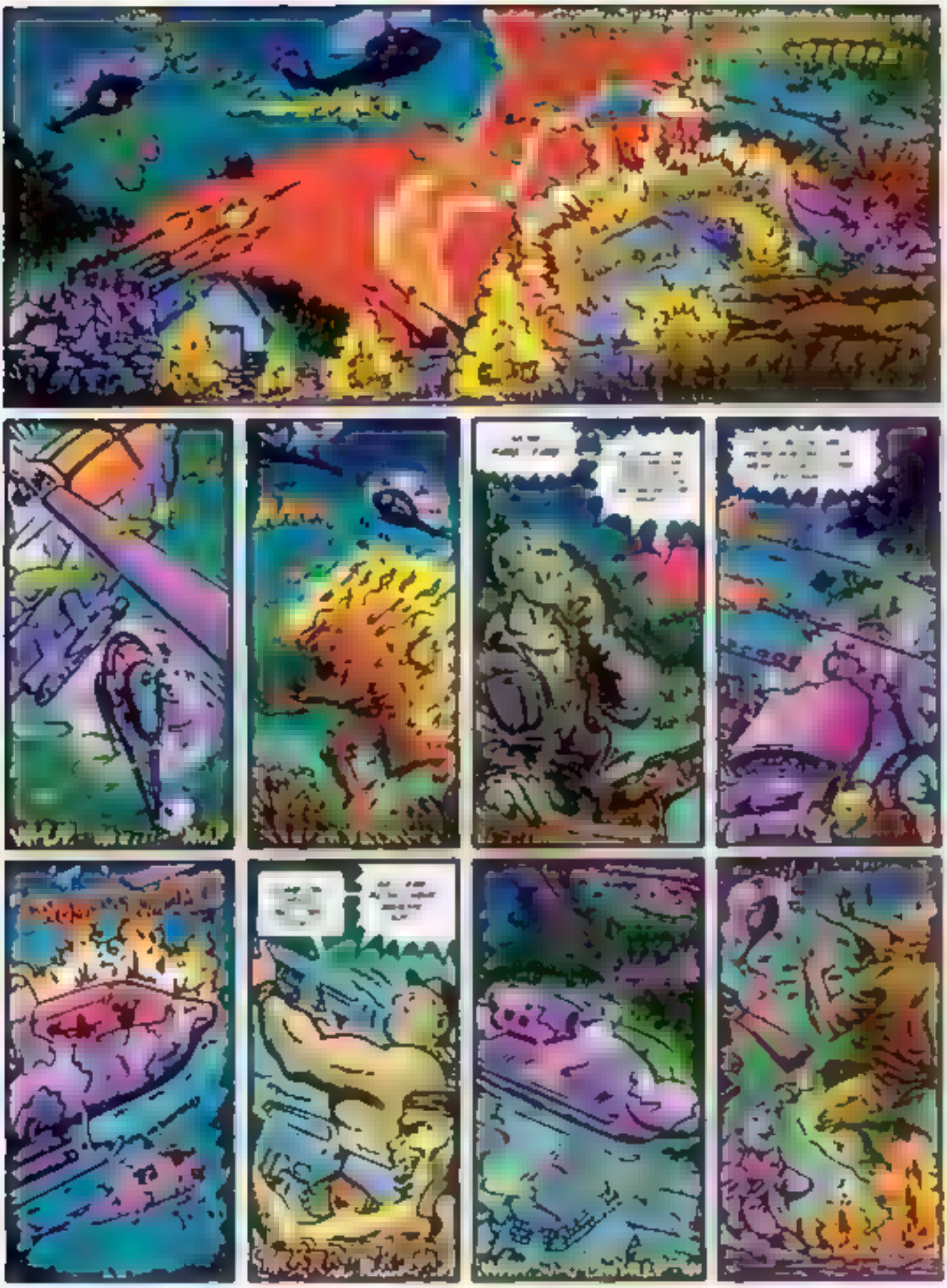


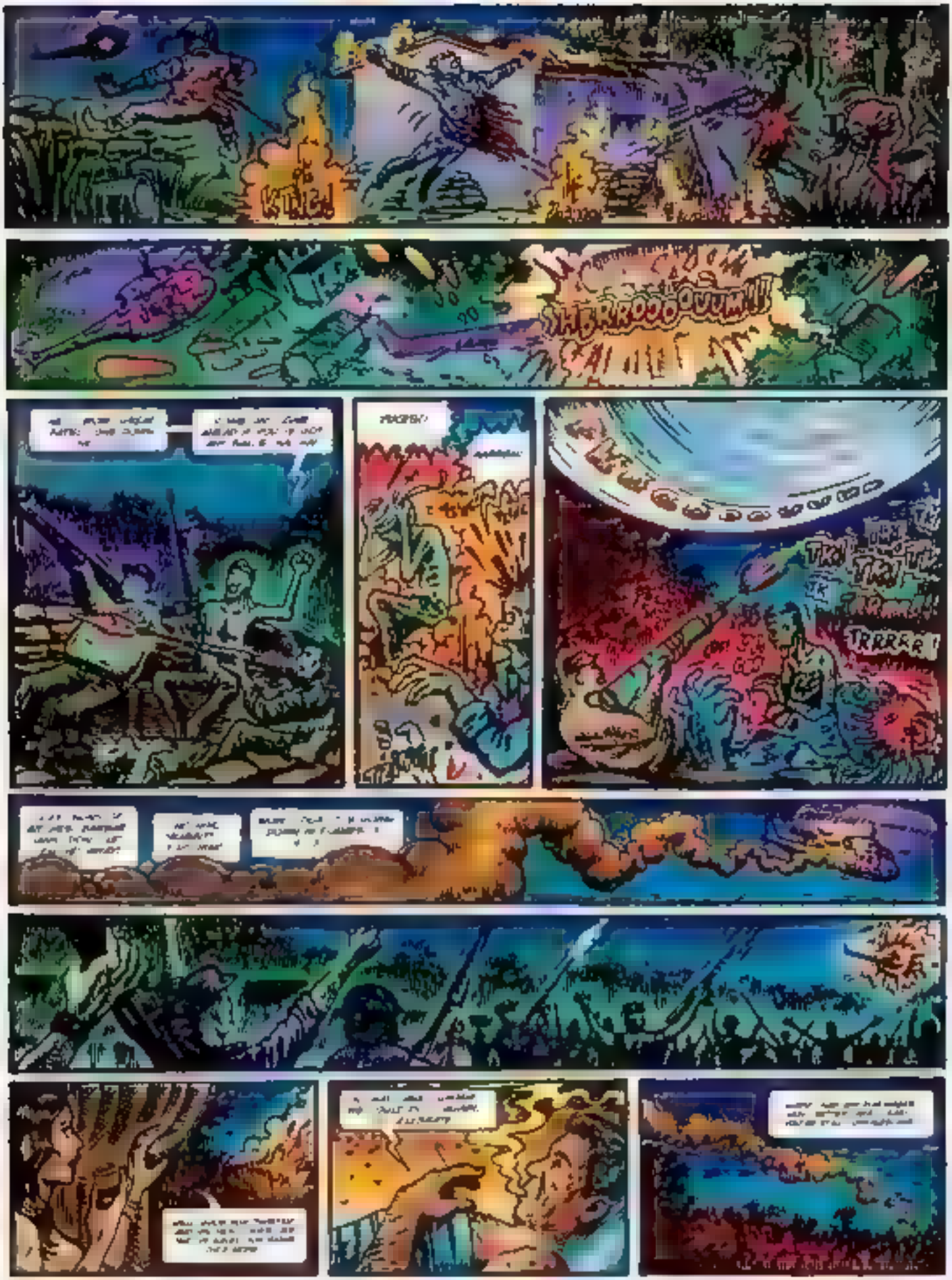

KLUNG!!
CRUNCH!!
AAAH!
AAAUGH!
KRAK!
CRECK!

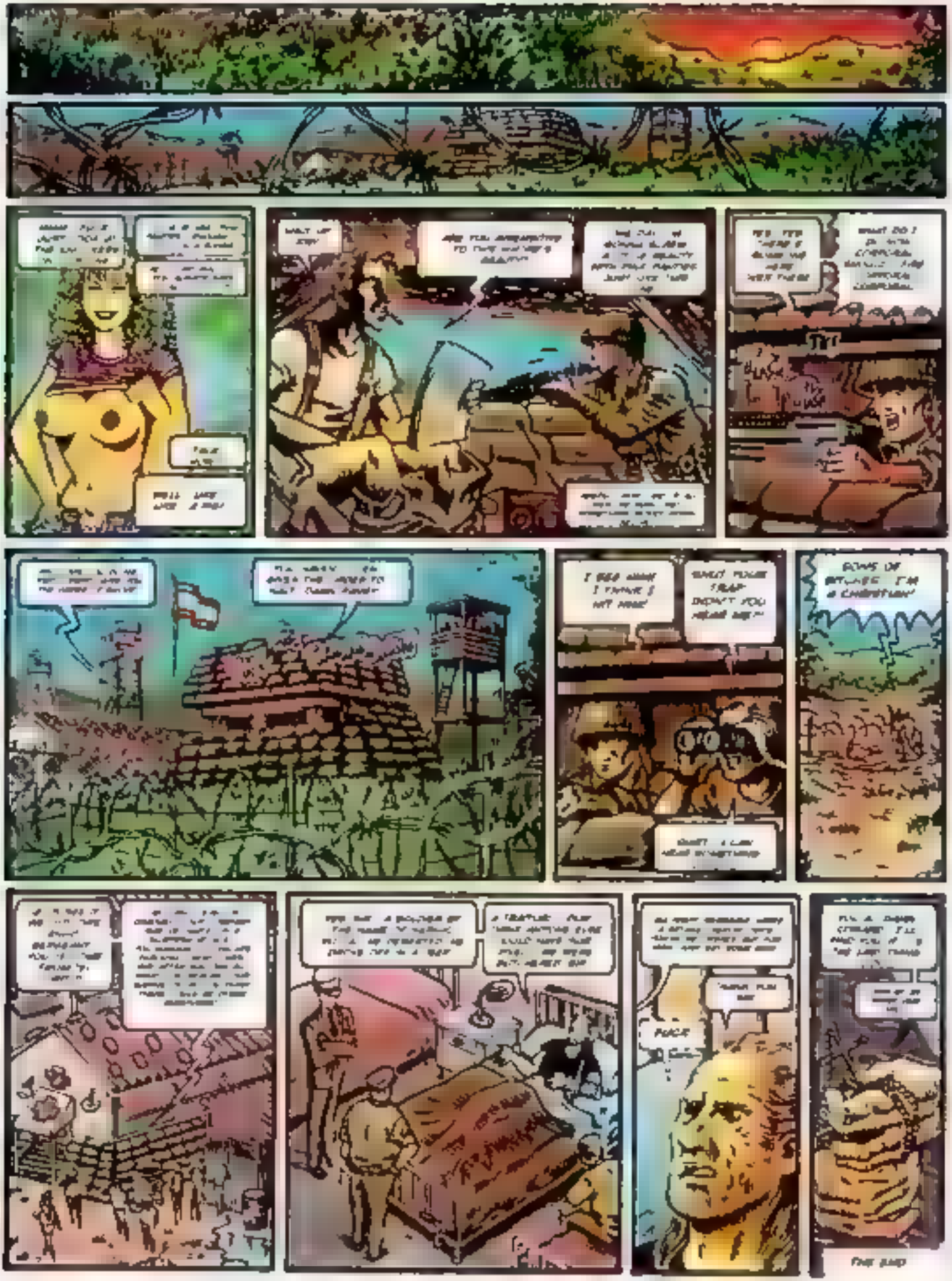

CRAK

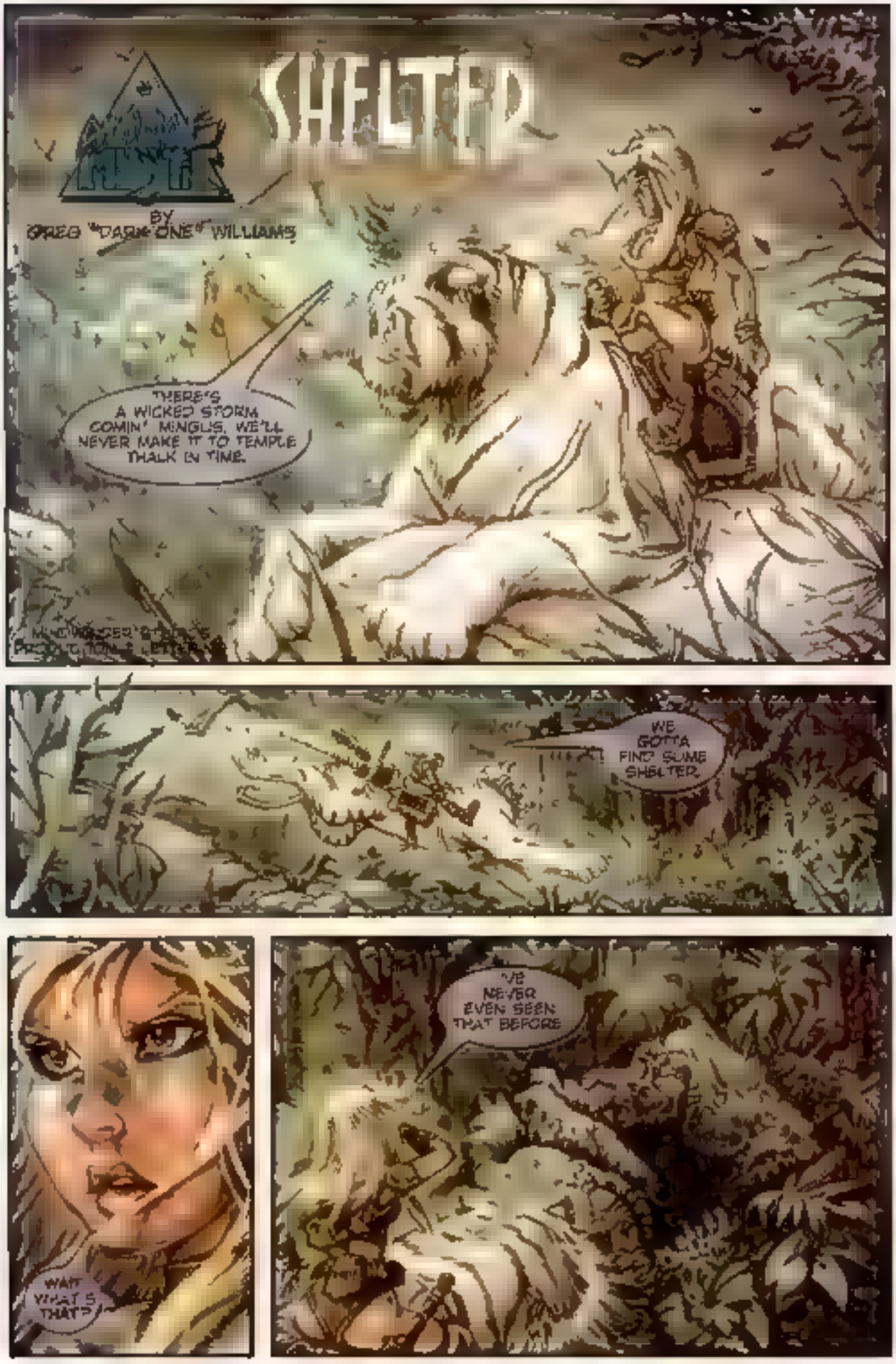







TRRRRR!

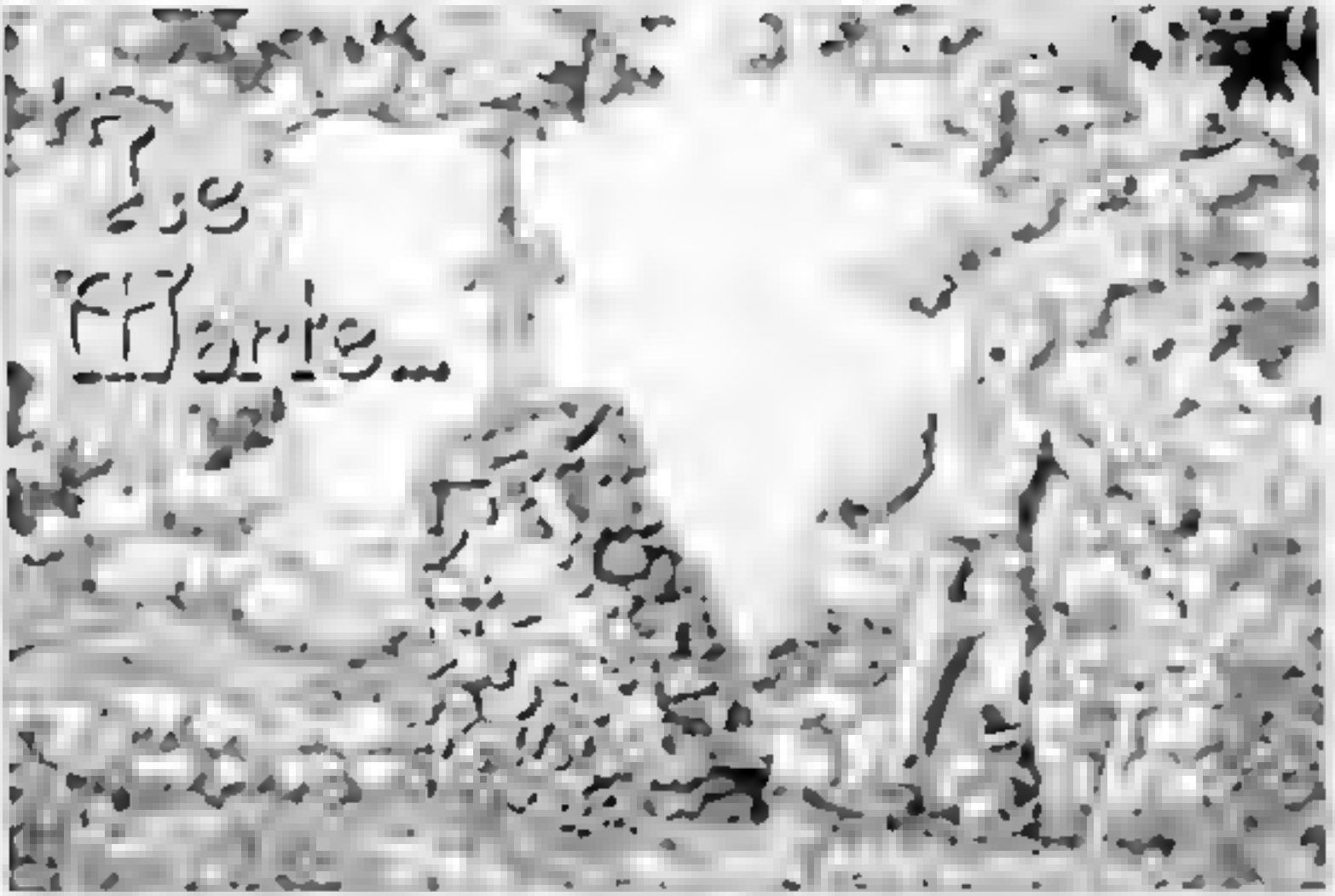

I SEE WHAT I THINK I HIT HIM!
WHAT MAKE I TRAP DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME?!
BOWS OF BRUCE I'M A CHRISTIAN!
THE END


SHELTER
BY
GREG "DARK ONE" WILLIAMS
THERE'S A WICKED STORM COMIN' MINGUS. WE'LL NEVER MAKE IT TO TEMPLE THALK IN TIME.
WE GOTTA FIND SUME SHELTER.
WAIT. WHAT'S THAT?
I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN THAT BEFORE

LET'S CHECK IT OUT
MINGUSS, THE GOUNDS NOT STABLE HERE...
LET'S MOVE IT.
YOU GOTTA' BE KIDDIN' ME.

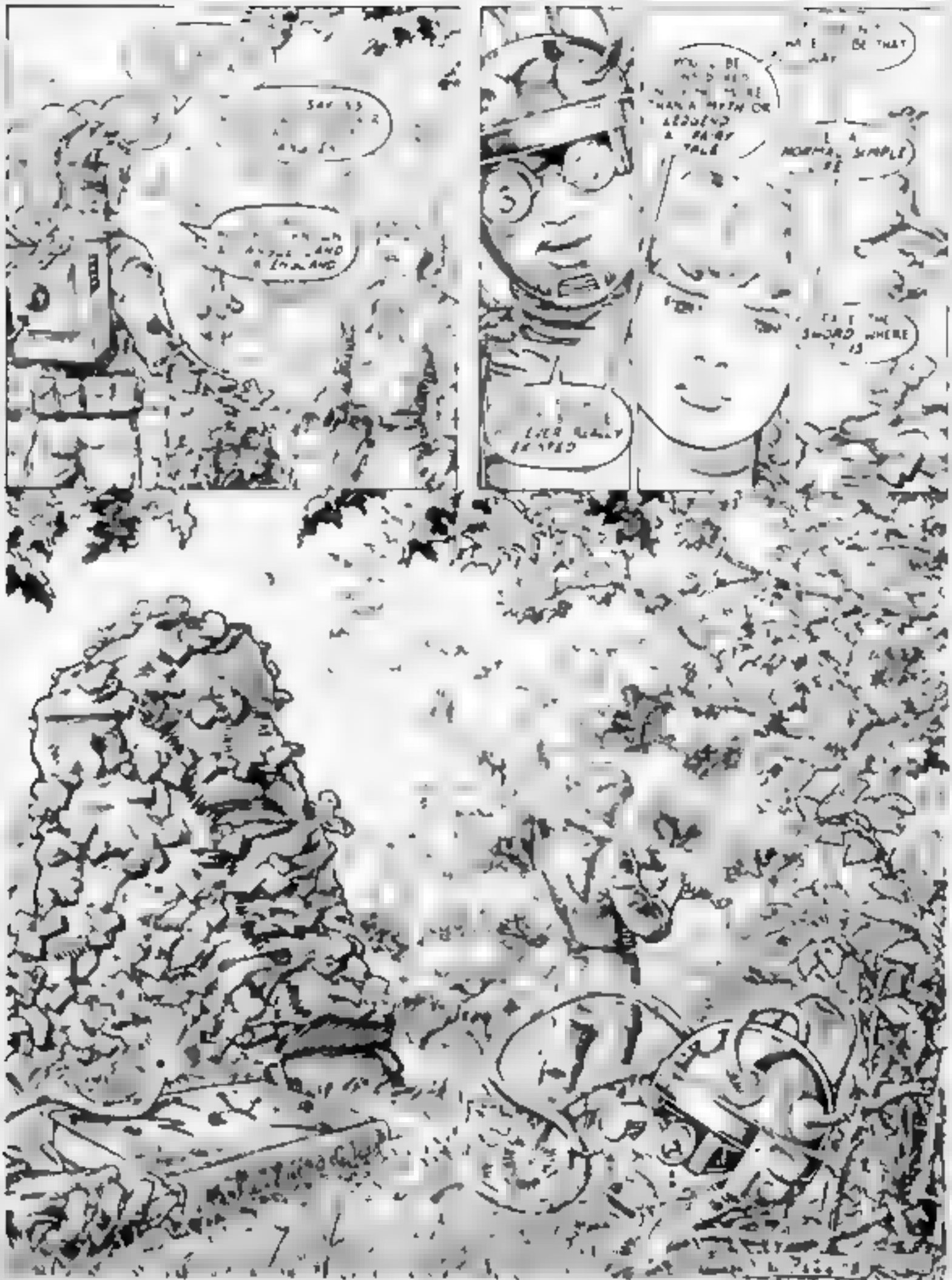
OH, GREAT
FFFFTTT...
FFFFTTT...
THIS COULDA' BEEN MY LEG.
WHAT THE HELL IS THIS PLACE?
HEY LOOK!

NOW THERE'S A DEAD END SIGN.
M. GONNA TRY SOMETHING..
KLOR! MY OLD FRIEND
MADE IT THROUGH YOUR TESTS, DO I WIN A PRIZE?
INDEED QUEEN.
SHELTER
THE END

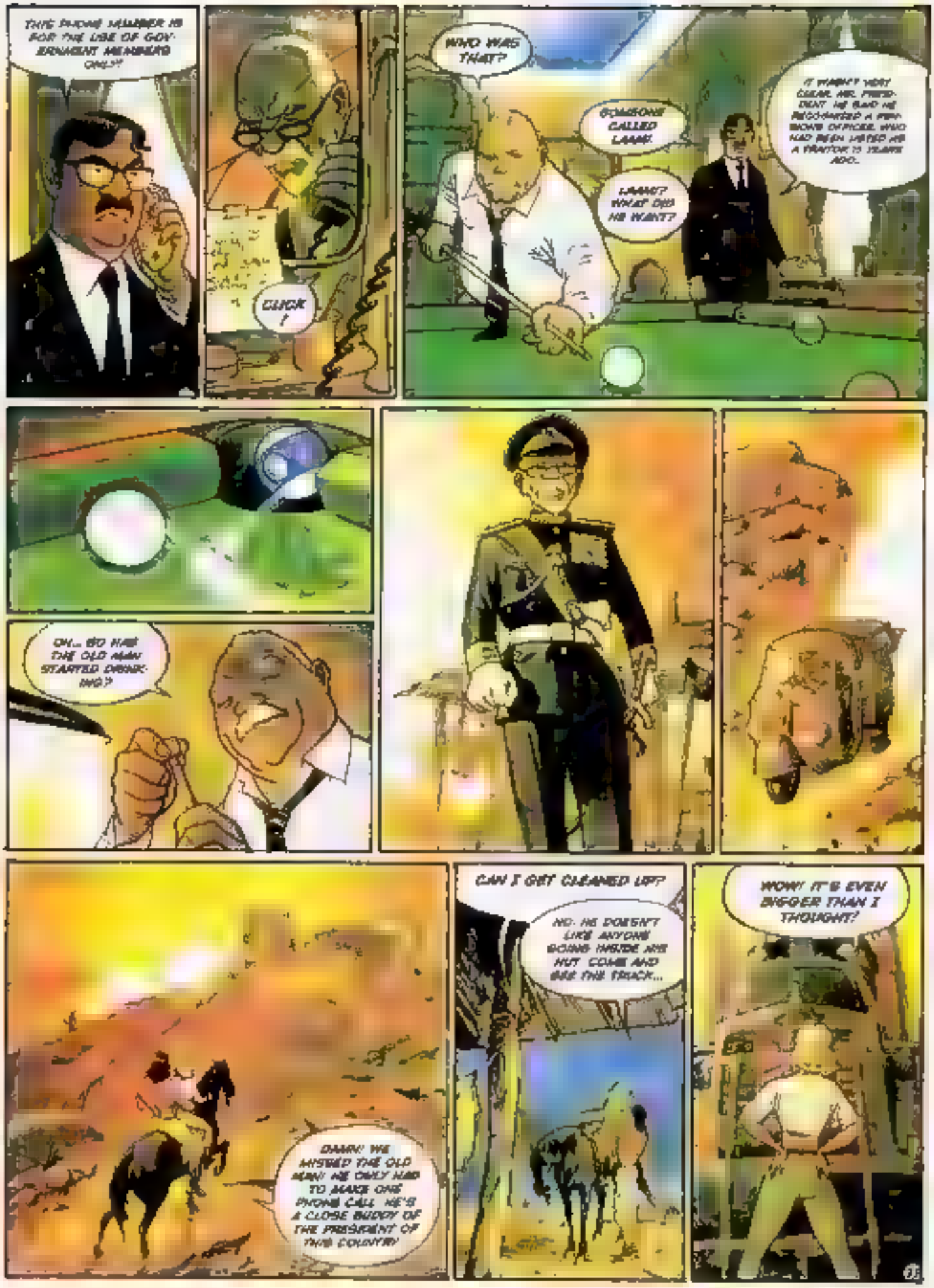


NOW, YOU WANT TO
FREE THE SWORD FROM THE
STONE TO REPLACE YOUR
THAT SIMPLE
BE CELEBRATED

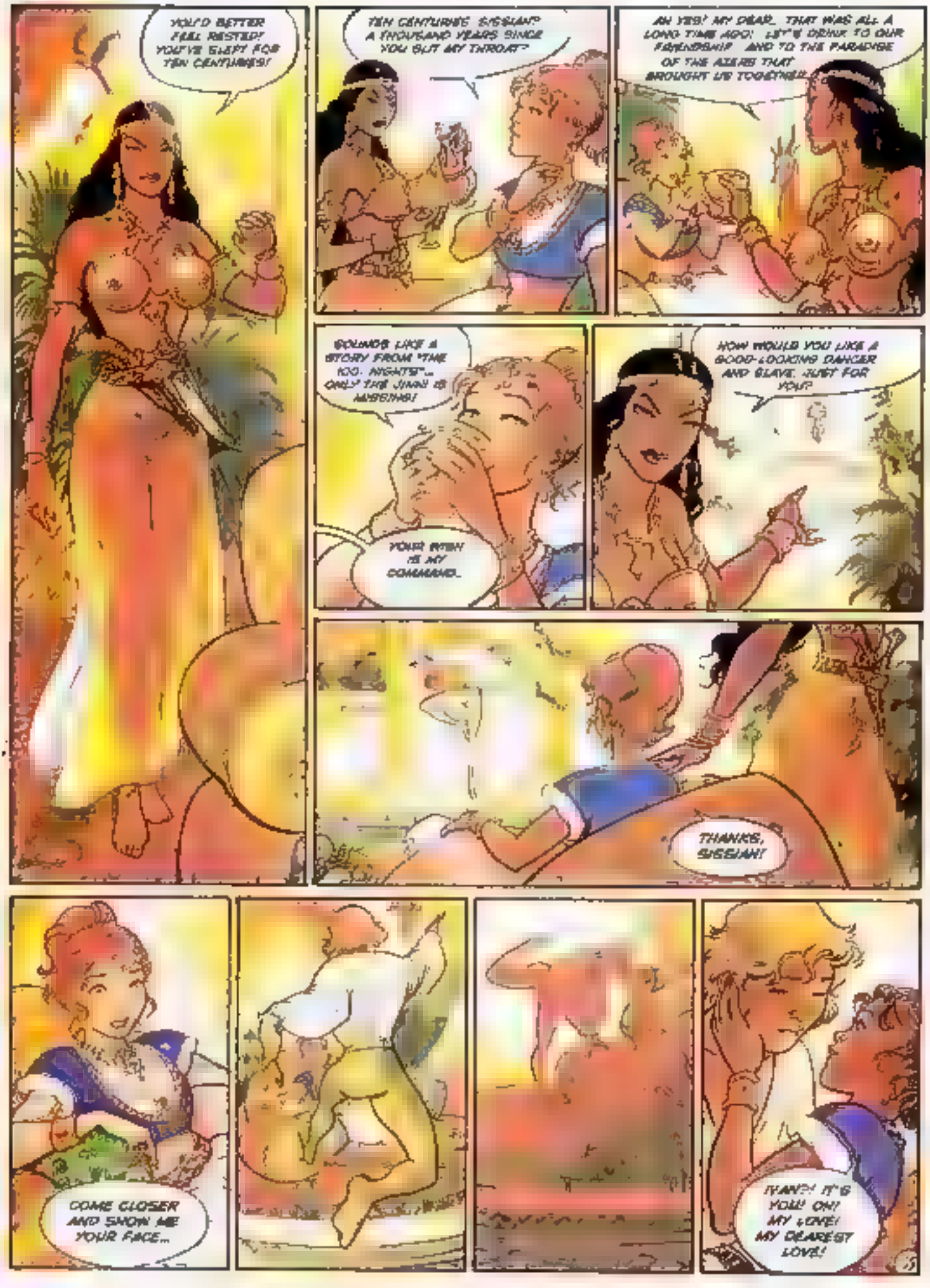
SOUNDS ABOUT AS GOOD A LIFE AS ANYONE IN THE DAMN AGE COULD HOPE FOR huh?
YOUR BEAUTY OF A WIFE FALLS FOR YOUR BEST FRIEND ..



MY POOR DEAR, IF ONLY YOU KNEW HOW EASY IT IS TO DIE HERE...
ARGH!
...IN THE AZERS' NEST!
GGG...
SO NOW... YOU'RE DEAD, LITTLE SISTER...
THE PRESIDENT'S PALACE...
NO! ...AND DON'T PHONE AGAIN!


THIS PHONE NUMBER IS FOR THE USE OF GOVERNMENT MEMBERS ONLY!
CLICK !
WHO WAS THAT?
SOMEONE CALLED LAAM!
LAAM? WHAT DID HE WANT?
IT WASN'T VERY CLEAR, MR. PRESIDENT. HE SAID HE RECOGNIZED A FORMER OFFICER, WHO HAD BEEN LISTED AS A TRAITOR 15 YEARS AGO...
OH... SO HAS THE OLD MAN STARTED DRINKING?
DAMN! WE MISSED THE OLD MAN! HE ONLY HAD TO MAKE ONE PHONE CALL. HE'S A CLOSE BUDDY OF THE PRESIDENT OF THIS COUNTRY!
CAN I GET CLEANED UP?
NO. HE DOESN'T LIKE ANYONE GOING INSIDE HIS HUT. COME AND SEE THE TRACK...
WOW! IT'S EVEN BIGGER THAN I THOUGHT!

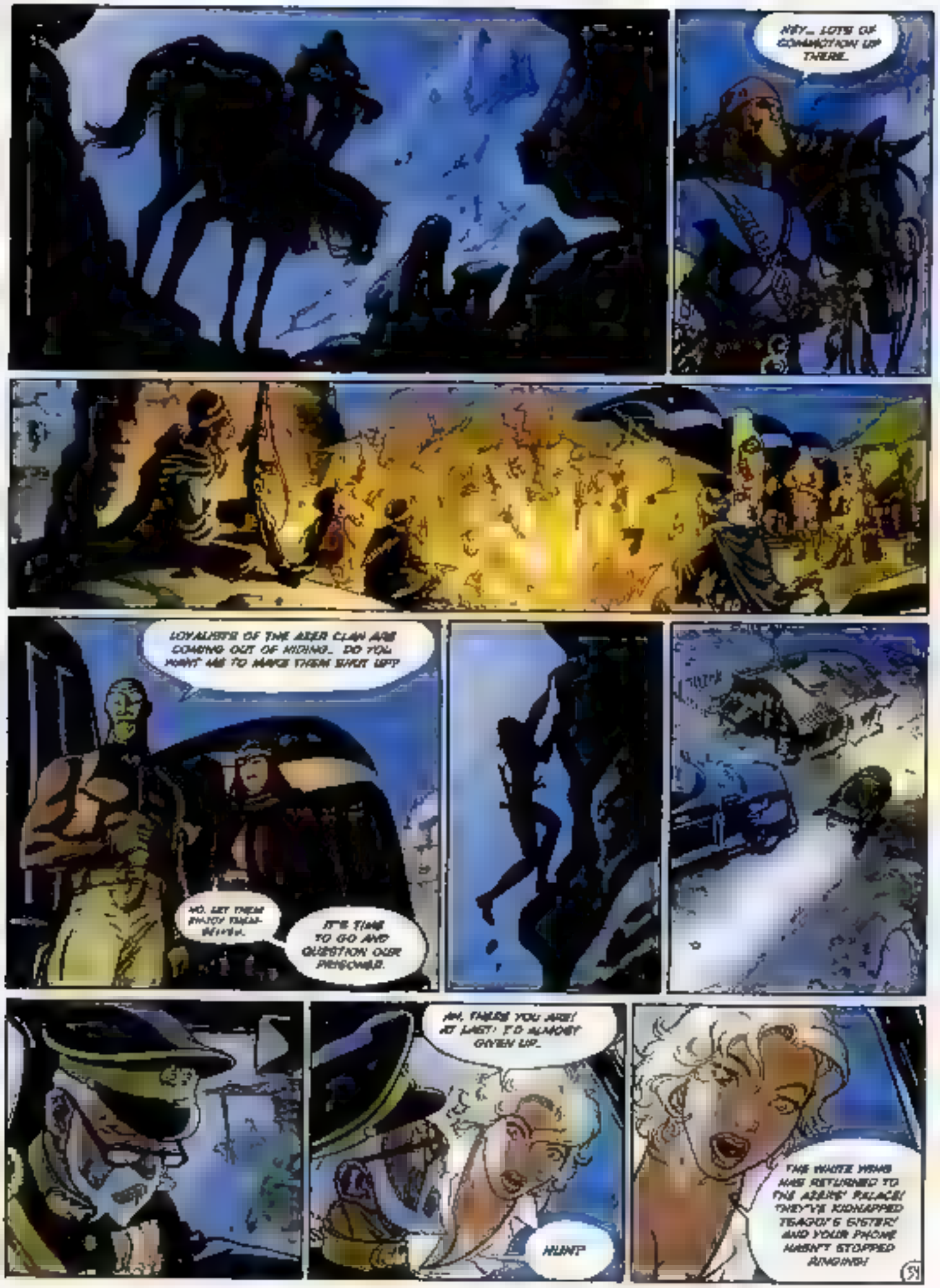
YOUR LITTLE SISTER DIDN'T EXAGGERATE WHAT LIQUOR?! OH... WHAT ARE YOU READING?
"HOW TO MAKE INCREDIBLY INTELLIGENT CONVERSATION"
OH, TEAGON! HOW SWEET! WERE YOU READING THIS FOR YOUR SISTER AND ME?
YEAH, BUT IT'S NOT WITH "INTELLIGENT CONVERSATION" THAT I'M GOING TO GET HER OUT OF THE MESS SHE'S IN!
SEE YOU LATER, GORGEOUS!
BEAT 'EM UP, TRUCKER! BRING BACK SOME SCALPS!
SOME DILLIGENCE! I SHOULD HURRY IT DOWN...
MMM...
AH! IT'S GREAT TO FEEL RESTED!


YOU'D BETTER FEEL RESTED! YOU'VE SLEPT FOR TEN CENTURIES!
TEN CENTURIES, SHEHAN? A THOUSAND YEARS SINCE YOU CUT MY THROAT?
AH YES! MY DEAR... THAT WAS ALL A LONG TIME AGO! LET'S DRINK TO OUR FRIENDSHIP AND TO THE PARADISE OF THE AZERS THAT BROUGHT US TOGETHER!
SOUNDS LIKE A STORY FROM "THE 100 NIGHTS"... ONLY THE JINNI IS MISSING!
YOUR WISH IS MY COMMAND...
HOW WOULD YOU LIKE A GOOD-LOOKING DANCER AND SLAVE, JUST FOR YOU?
THANKS, SHEHAN!
COME CLOSER AND SHOW ME YOUR FACE...
IVAN?! IT'S YOU! OH! MY LOVE! MY DEAREST LOVE!

DID SHE TALK?
GIVE THE DARLIG SOME TIME!
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS PLACE, AHMAD?
AMAZING!
IF YOU COULD MAKE SELFIN ME AT THE AGE OF TWELVE HALDING ON THESE FLAT STONES
THERE WAS WOLD EVERYWHERE AND WOMEN AND SORCERERS YOUNG MEN. THE CELLARS WERE FILLED WITH SLAVES WHO WERE EXQUISITELY TORTURED...
AND RULING OVER EVERYONE WAS LORD RECHID-EDDIN ATEB... THE LAST IN THE LINE OF THE EVIL ORDER OF THE ALAMOUT REBELLIONS...
TOLERATING NO WEAKNESS SHOWING NO HUMAN FEELINGS...
THE EASE WITH WHICH HE PUT AN END TO HUMAN LIFE TERRIFIED EVERYONE.
MY SOLDIERS WERE SHAKING. HE GLANCED AT ME AND KNEW IMMEDIATELY WHO I WAS.
AH! NOW HERE'S SOMEONE AFTER MY OWN HEART... YOU OBEY ORDERS. "LITTLE DAGGER"?
USING MAGIC CUNNING OR STRENGTH I MANAGED TO EXECUTE ALL ORDERS.

WHAT'S YOUR LAST THOUGHT BEFORE YOU FALL ASLEEP?
THERE IS NO TRUTH.
AND WHEN YOU WAKE UP IN THE MORNING?
NOTHING IS FORBIDDEN.
COME HERE... I HAVE AN ORDER TO GIVE YOU.
KILL ME!
I WAS PREPARED FOR THAT SORT OF TEST THE ASSERS KNOW ONLY HOW TO OBEY... A DAGGER NEED NOT THINK.
THERE IS NO TRUTH.
NOTHING IS FORBIDDEN!
HA! HA! YOU BUT THE OLD MAN'S THROAT?
ALMOST EXCEPT IT WASN'T ASSER BUT HIS "SHADOW" OR STAND-IN WHOSE NAME WAS MOSTAFFER.
HE TOOK ME IN HIS ARMS AND, FROM THAT DAY ON HE TREATED ME LIKE HIS OWN DAUGHTER.

SO THEY WERE ALL KILLED?... WHERE WERE YOU DURING THE REVOLUTION?
IN WASHINGTON... THE WHITE WING HAD ALREADY MADE ALLIANCES WITH SOME POWERFUL SECRET GROUPS
THAT'S THE IRONY OF THE STORY...
THEY ENDED UP REORGANIZING UNDER THAT NAME BECAUSE THE WHITE WING HAD TO BE PROTECTED AND COULD NOT BE DESTROYED!
WELCOME! HELP YOURSELF TO THE GIRLS AND DRAPS!
WHERE IS COLONEL TUPEDI?
HERE! WHO ARE YOU?
HEY! IT'S OLD LAAMI! THE SAVIOR OF AL DESIR!
YOUR NAME IS STILL ON THE LIST, TUPEDI! AS FAR AS I KNOW IT'S NEVER BEEN SCRATCHED OUT!
HUH? WHAT LIST?
...THE LIST OF THOSE WHO COLLABORATED WITH THE AZER FAMILY! THE EXECUTION LIST!
BLAM
YOU'LL TELL PRESIDENT CHAKIR THAT I CAN BE REACHED AT HOME!
AT LEAST I ANSWER MY PHONE!


HEY... LOTS OF COMMOTION UP THERE.
LOYALISTS OF THE AZER CLAN ARE COMING OUT OF HIDING. DO YOU WANT ME TO MAKE THEM SHUT UP?
NO. LET THEM ENJOY THEIR-WHATEVER.
IT'S TIME TO GO AND QUESTION OUR PRISONER.
AH, THERE YOU ARE! AT LAST! I'D ALMOST GIVEN UP.
HUH?
THE WHITE WIND HAS RETURNED TO THE AZERS' PALACE! THEY'VE KIDNAPPED TSAGOT'S SISTER! AND YOUR PHONE HASN'T STOPPED RINGING!
51

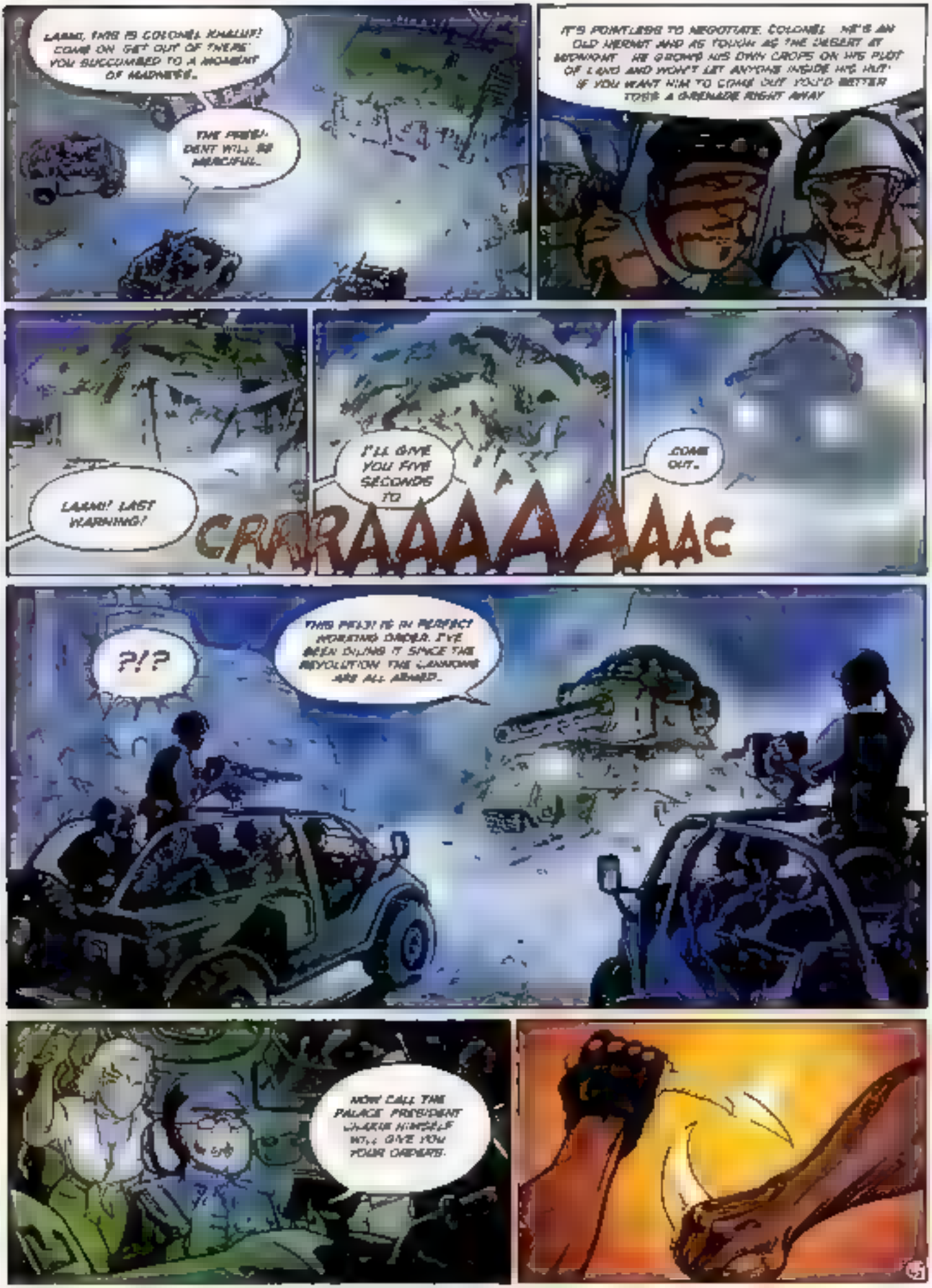
WHERE'S THE WITCH? I CAN'T FIND HER ANYWHERE...
SOMETIMES SHE DISAPPEARS WITH AHMAD, INTO THE RUINS... WHO?
SHIT! IT'S IMPORTANT! OUR CONTACT IN THE DEFENCE MINISTRY HAS JUST BEEN ASSASSINATED!
OH LOOK! SINJAR IS PISSING ON AL DESIR!
ONE HUNDRED TUMANS IF YOU CAN PISS FARTHER THAN ME!
LOOK! I'M PISSING ON THE PALACE!
I'M PISSING ON THE PRESIDENT!
DEATH TO THE PRESIDENT! DOWN WITH THE REPUBLIC!
?!
BLAM
HIT THE EARTH!
BLAM BLAM
I WOULDN'T DO THAT AGAIN, IF I WERE YOU, BASTARDS!
40

AH, THAT HAPPENED ONE THOUSAND YEARS AGO. BUT I REMEMBER IT AS IF IT WERE YESTERDAY...
A THOUSAND YEARS, THAT WAS YESTERDAY DEAR... YOU DON'T REMEMBER ANY OTHER CONTACT OR HIT NEWS? YOU DIDN'T TALK TO ANYONE ABOUT ME, AT ALL QUEEN?
OK YES I DIDN'T I'D ALMOST FORGOTTEN THE WOMAN AT THE ATHANOR WHO TOLD ME HOW YOU'D BEEN RECRUITED BY THE ARKS.
AAH! THAT'S BETTER.
PAW RATATAK BHAM PAW
AH, FIREWORKS! GREAT! I LOVE THEM!
HEY WHO'S USING A SHOTGUN?
PAW PAW
TA-TA
AN ENTRANCE! THAT'S ALL I WANTED...

ADIOS, AMIGOS!
KAWBLAM BOM
YOU OLD FART! ALL YOU CAN DO IS EAT DESERT SAND. AND NOW YOU WANT TO GIVE ME ADVICE?
OF COURSE, IT'S A COUP D'ETAT! DO YOU THINK I'VE GONE SOFT IN THE HEAD? I'M TELLING YOU THE WHITE WING IS BACK!
BUT... HOW CAN THAT BE? WE KILLED THEM ALL!
OH YEAH! AND IT JUST SO HAPPENS THAT I DIDN'T TAKE PART IN THAT BATTLE. MAYBE SOMEONE DIDN'T FINISH OFF THE JOB PROPERLY!
MR. LAAM! COME QUICK! WE'VE GOT COMPANY...
WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? WHAT DO YOU WANT?
SURRENDER, LAAM! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST!
AND YOU PEE SQUATTING DOWN, LIKE A FEMALE CAMEL!
RA-TA-TA-TA
TATATATATATA
LAAM! WHAT'S GOING ON? ARE YOU STILL ON THE LINE?
42

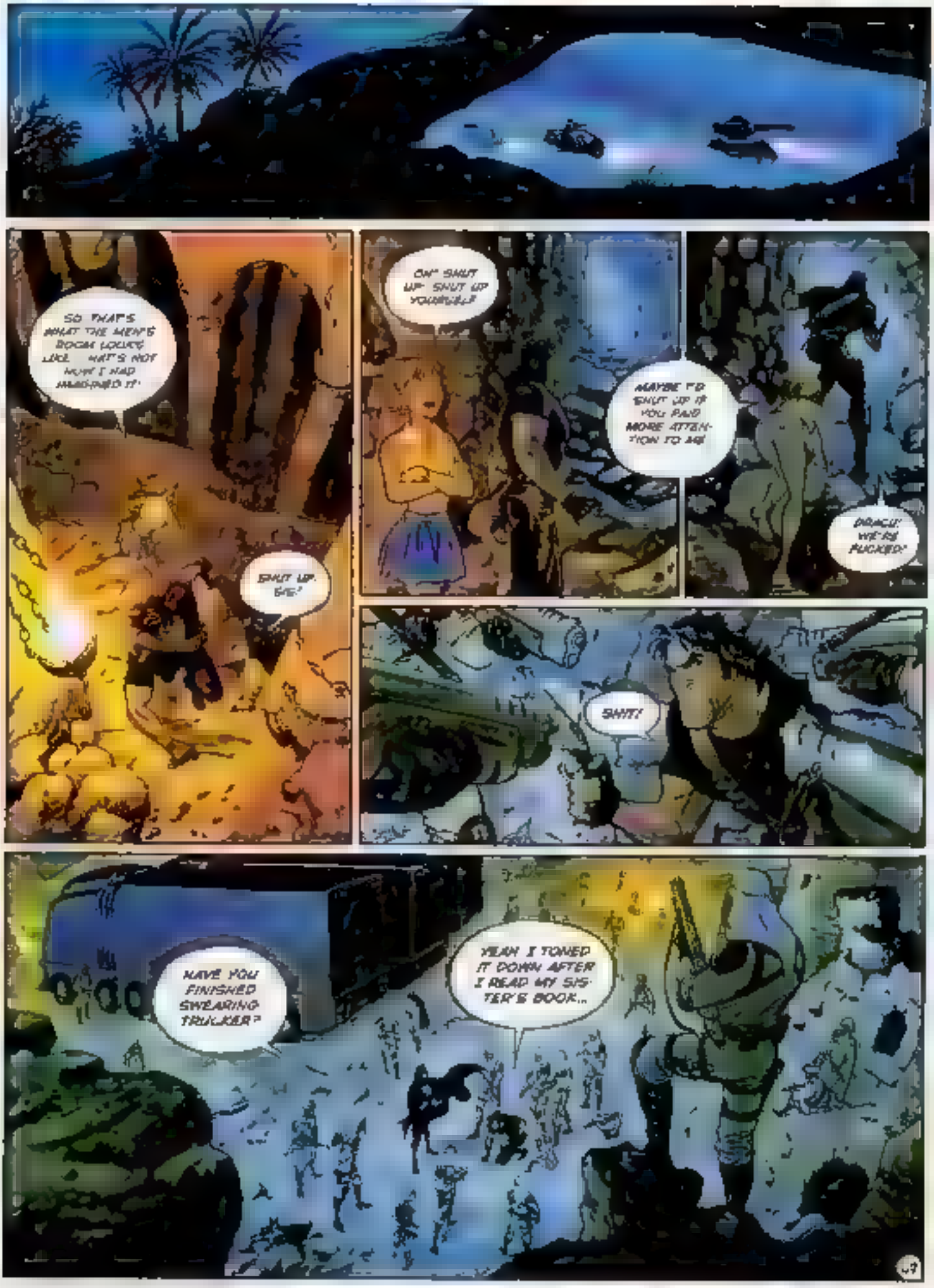
WOW! WHAT IS THIS?
SHIT!
CAN I HELP YOU?
WHERE'S MY SISTER?
WALKING THE STREETS, WITH YOUR MOTHER, I GUESS.
WHAT?
WHAM!
ARGH!

SO YOU MUST BE THE GYPSY. I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE YOU RIGHT AWAY... FUNNY... WE HAVE ABOUT THE SAME BUILD. HAD YOU NOTICED?
THE SAME BUILD? YOU MUST BE DREAMING.
DRACU! YOU'RE GONNA TELL ME WHERE SHE IS!!
HER THROAT WAS SLIT THIS AFTERNOON.
MUM?
OH... SHE DIDN'T SUFFER... BY NOW SHE'S SIPPING TEA IN PARADISE.
SHE'S PROBABLY TALKING ABOUT YOU...
BY BEELZEBUB'S FARTS!! ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE FUN OF ME?!
LIKE IN HER BOOK REMEMBER?
WHEN SHE COMPARED YOU TO A MONGOLIAN WARTHOG. THE ONLY ANIMAL THAT CAN'T TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN X-RAY AND A BEAM OF FUSION.
RHAAA!!


LAMM, THIS IS COLONEL KHALLIF! COME ON GET OUT OF THERE! YOU SUCCUMBED TO A MOMENT OF MADNESS.
THE PRESIDENT WILL BE MERCIFUL.
IT'S POINTLESS TO NEGOTIATE, COLONEL. HE'S AN OLD HERMIT AND AS TOUGH AS THE DESERT AT MIDNIGHT. HE GROWS HIS OWN CROPS ON HIS PLOT OF LAND AND WON'T LET ANYONE INSIDE HIS HUT. IF YOU WANT HIM TO COME OUT YOU'D BETTER TOSS A GRENADE RIGHT AWAY
LAMM! LAST WARNING!
I'LL GIVE YOU FIVE SECONDS TO
CRRRAAAAAAAC
COME OUT.
?!?
THIS PIECE IS IN PERFECT WORKING ORDER. I'VE BEEN DRIVING IT SINCE THE REVOLUTION. THE CANNONS ARE ALL ARMED.
NOW CALL THE PALACE PRESIDENT CHARLIE HIMSELF WILL GIVE YOU YOUR ORDERS.

NO... I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT ANY-MORE...
THE DRUG IS WEARING OFF...
THE WHITE WING MY LAST DAYS ON EARTH, THE ARGUMENT WITH MY BROTHER. GHOST...
THE ARGUMENT WITH YOUR BROTHER?
OH, FORGET IT! HE COULDN'T EVEN STOP YOU FROM KILLING ME.
THE GYPSY WAS WITH YOU AT AL PERLIN?
THESE TREES... THAT KID? APPEARING AND DISAPPEARING... AND WHERE'S NAN?
//
AH! WELL SPEAK OF THE DEVIL!...
SPASL

BLOUB
AHHEAD!
SORRY, BISBIGAL!
A THOUSAND APOLOGIES! YOUR LOVER BOY IS A BIT SMASHED UP!
OH, FRANCH! WHAT A BEAUTIFUL COSTUME! IS THERE A PARTY? HAVE YOU COME TO GET ME?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE! IF SHE COMES BACK WITH HER GUARDS, WE'RE FUCKED.
OH YEH, LET'S GET OUT AND HAVE SOME FUN THIS PLACE IS BORING, AND BESIDES IT STINKS!
HI, MR. STAL-LAG-MICA! HI MRS STAL-LACTITE!


SO THAT'S WHAT THE MEN'S ROOM LOOKS LIKE. HATE'S NOT HOW I HAD IMAGINED IT.
SHUT UP. BE!
OH* SHUT UP. SHUT UP YOURSELF
MAYBE I'D SHUT UP IF YOU PAID MORE ATTENTION TO ME!
DRACU! WE'RE FUCKED!
SHIT!
HAVE YOU FINISHED SWEARING TRUCKER?
YEAH I TONED IT DOWN AFTER I READ MY SISTER'S BOOK...

WHAT SHE REALLY WANT TO TOO!
THE THREE OF US GO BACK A LONG WAY. HAVE SOME PLEASANT MEMORIES OF OUR TRIP TOGETHER ON ACROSS THE ARCTIC CIRCLE TOGETHER
BUT NOW WE HAVE NO TIME TO HAVE FUN. I HAVE SOME IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO
YES TO HELP THE WHITE WHO ROSE FROM ITS ASHES
SUCH AS SPENDING A FEW TONS OF EURODOLLARS STOLEN FROM THE RUSSIAN MAFIA.
GREAT. RIGHT ON TARGET!
BLOCK ALL THE EXITS! SURROUND THE HILL!
DON'T LET ANY OF THE TRAITORS GET AWAY!

SIS! KOF! KOF! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
YOU HAVEN'T DONE A GOOD DAY'S WORK UNLESS YOU'VE SAVED MY LIFE ONCE OR TWICE, HUH?
OBLIVIA! TSAGOI!
DID YOU SEE THAT? DO YOU THINK THEY'RE REAL?
AS REAL AS CAN BE!
TSAGOI? ...WHAT ABOUT THE WITCH?
I'VE GIVEN ORDERS TO SURROUND THE HILL. NO ONE WILL GET OUT WITHOUT BEING CHECKED...
PLEASE WATCH MY MEN! THIS MONEY BELONGS TO THE REPUBLIC.
DON'T WORRY, COLONEL! I'LL KEEP AN EYE ON THEM...
ASSEMBLE THE TRAITORS. LEAVE NO STONE UNTURNED! I WANT THAT WITCH SISSIAN!
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LATER...
SO, YOU DON'T WISH TO BE A MINISTER?
NO, THANKS! ON THE OTHER HAND, REGARDING MY PENSION...
AH! AH! THE MOST CAPABLE LEADERS ARE OFTEN THE ONES WHO TURN DOWN POSITIONS OF POWER!
INCH ALLAH!
SO YOU WON'T FORGET MY PENSION? THEY'RE REALLY NOT VERY HELPFUL AT THE MINISTRY!
ANY NEWS?
NO... OUR MEN ARE STILL SEARCHING THE UNDERGROUND PASSAGES. BUT IN MY OPINION, THE WITCH GOT AWAY.
IT WAS TO BE EXPECTED...
COLONEL! WE FOUND A GIRL IN THE RUINS... SHE'S IN PRETTY BAD SHAPE... SHE MUST BE EVACUATED!
BRAC!! LET ME SEE IF IT'S HER...
HELL?
I DON'T KNOW. ANYTHING'S POSSIBLE WITH THAT SHE-DEVIL...
NO... IT'S THE WOMAN I MET AT THE FOUNTAIN. SHE'S ONE OF THE FEW PEOPLE IN TOWN WHO AGREED TO TALK TO ME ABOUT THE WHITE WOMB...
SHE MUST BE SAVED! HURRY! PLEASE DON'T DIE! I FEEL RESPONSIBLE...
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WHAT ABOUT THIS ONE?
MMM? OH... THAT WAS IN SHANGHAI... BEFORE THE WAR... I NEVER ACTUALLY SAW THE GUY WHO GAVE ME THAT SCAR. IT WAS IN A BAR...
ANOTHER ONE? CONSIDERING THE NUMBER OF TIMES YOU'VE BEEN STABBED IN THE BACK IN BARS, I'M SURPRISED YOU STILL GET THIRSTY...
SPLASH!
HEY?
EVA, I'M GOING BACK TO WORK... ARE YOU COMING TO READ MY NEW CHAPTER?
HA! HA! HA! HUH! WHAT? ...OH, SURE, I'M COMING...
HERE'S YOUR BILL... HOW DO YOU WISH TO PAY?
CASH!
IF THE TWO CHICKS IN ROOM 67 ASK YOU WHERE I AM, TELL THEM I CHECKED OUT...
GLUG GLUG
HEY! GYPSY! YOU'RE BLOCKING MY FRONT... GET YOUR FUCKIN' TRUCK OUTTA HERE!

YOU ARE ACCUSED OF USING MONEY FROM THE WHITE WING TO SERVE YOUR OWN AMBITIONS.
THAT'S NOT TRUE, AS DAIS L'KEBIR, I WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR...
AS WHO?
THAT'S THE OLD ARABIC NAME. SHE'S MAKING FUN OF US!
EXCUSE ME... AS LIEUTENANT OF THE SECOND CIRCLE, I WAS QUALIFIED TO HANDLE THE OPERATION ACCORDING TO MY OWN JUDGMENT...
...WHICH RESULTED IN AN ABSOLUTE FIASCO. AT WHAT LEVEL DID YOU ENTER THE ORGANIZATION?
I WAS A "REFIK" UNDER THE AZERS.
...ON?
YES. FROM THE AGE OF TWELVE, I HAD THE SECRET STATUS OF DAGGER-WOMAN. I WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR A LOT OF EXECUTIONS FOR THE WHITE WING.
WE KNOW...
LATER, I BECAME A TRAVELING MERCENARY FOR THE THIRD CIRCLE. I REMAINED THERE UNTIL I STOLE THE THREE TRUCKS. AT WHICH TIME YOU MADE ME ENTER THE SECOND CIRCLE...
NOW WE CAN EITHER KILL YOU... OR DEMOTE YOU TO THE LOWEST RUNG...
SISSIAN, DO YOU WANT TO COME BACK TO THE WHITE WING TO SERVE AS A TOOL IN THE MOST ABOMINABLE TASKS?
...OR DO YOU CHOOSE TO DIE HONORABLY IMMEDIATELY?
I WOULD RATHER CONTINUE TO SERVE... THE WHITE WING.
ALL RIGHT. WE'LL CONSIDER YOUR CHOICE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAY ANYTHING ELSE?
SAMOLOV
MOEBIUS
THERE IS NO TRUTH. NOTHING IS FORBIDDEN.